FBIS DAILY REPORT

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HARGUINDEGUY SAYS SECURITY FORCES MUST BE REDIRECTED

PY051352Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 5 May 78 p 1 PY

[Text] "A kind of bullying and insolent attitude" has flourished in the nation's security forces under the protection of the emergency procedures set up to fight subversion. And it is now the responsibility of the nation's police chiefs to "rechannel the police departments in the appropriate paths." This was the mandate which interior minister, General Albano Harguindeguy, delivered yesterday to those attending the fifth national police congress here.

Harguindeguy told the assembled law enforcement officers that they had, with the help of the population, defeated the subversive groups in a "war without quarter." At the same time, he added, "as in every prolonged war there came about an interpenetration among the participants." The terrorists copied the doctrine, the regulations, the uniforms, even the officer categories of the security forces." At the same time the armed forces brought their procedures down on a level with those used by the subversives: The disdain for human life, intrinsic to the philosophy of the enemy, rubbed off on a few (in the ranks of the security forces)."

The result of this degenerative process, the minister continued, has been a "total and generalized lack of faith in justice. The force of the state was transformed, in some cases, into violence exercised by groups (which were) out of control. The failure to hold this violence in check created an atmosphere favourable to the loss of ethical control."

The first objective of this government--to break up the subversive groups--has now been accomplished, Harguindeguy told the police assembly.

NO ROOM FOR POLITICAL PARTIES, HARGUINDEGUY REITERATES

PY051609Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0335 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Catamarca, 4 May--Interior Minister Gen Albano Harguindeguy said last night that the "political parties known to us before 25 May 1973 do not have any role in the future Argentina."

General Harguindeguy also mentioned the role of journalism, stating that "it is too important an activity to be excluded from the rules of the game." He indicated that journalism must maintain its objectivity and avoid becoming the tool of sectorial propaganda.

MONTES LEAVES FOR COSTA RICAN INAUGURATION

PY060139Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2345 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 5 May--Foreign Minister Oscar Antonio Montes left tonight for Costa Rica to attend the inauguration ceremony of newly elected President Rodrigo Carazo, which will take place on Monday.

Before leaving Ezeiza International Airport, Montes told reporters that on (?12 May), on his return from Costa Rica, he will leave for New York to attend the UN extraordinary session on disarmament.

LA OPINION REPORTS ON MILITARY'S POLITICAL STUDIES

PY051906Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1151 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 May--The armed forces are reviewing at the highest levels the main options for change in the power structure during the new stage of government, which include the possible establishment of a military committee concerned strictly with military affairs, expansion of the cabinet from 8 to 14 ministries, and appointment of a civilian to head the Interior Ministry.

These details are reported in today's edition of the Buenos Aires newspaper LA OPINION, which indicates that the armed forces review covers both the specifically military area and political measures to be implemented when Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla begins his new role in government after relinquishing his post as army commander next August.

The article also states that during the last few hours the secretaries general of the armed forces have studied the compatibility of the political proposals presented by the three [armed] forces.

Brig Gen Reynaldo Bignone, for the army; Vice Adm Eduardo Fracassi, for the navy; and Brig Gen Basilio Lami Dozo, for the air force, together reviewed details of the implementation of the new power structure which will begin in August. It was indicated that the new stage will be marked by "greater presidential power" and a different power structure.

These studies are based on the occurrence of "grey areas" in the statutes which govern the national reorganization process and in other basic documents, where the powers of the head of the executive branch and his relations with the military junta are not clearly established.

The morning paper indicates that the chiefs of staff of the three forces are also reviewing strictly military issues. Maj Gen Roberto Viola, Vice Adm Armando Lambruschini and Maj Gen Omar Graffigna are evaluating the possibility of establishing a military committee which would include the president, the members of the military junta, the national defense minister and the chief of the joint staff.

The possibility of establishing a military committee is said to be based primarily on the fact that the position of chief of the joint staff is a rotating position and that "if a ministerial reorganization is decided on to begin on 1 August 1978, the defense minister could well be a civilian."

The newspaper reasserts its assumption that the ministerial reorganization to be decided during the new political stage of government will increase the ministries to nine, but it also states that there are plans to increase the present 8 ministries to between 12 and 14.

It is asserted that the review includes considering that there are two overgrown ministries--economy and social welfare--and that a division of the Economy Ministry into an area for services and another for production is being considered.

Regarding the Social Welfare Ministry, its Urban Development and Housing Secretariat would be turned into a ministry and the Public Health Secretariat would be promoted to the same rank. The Culture and Education Ministry would also be divided into two ministries to take care of each field.

The newspaper concludes, based on information from military sources, that at the military level it is believed "some of the so-called grey areas are darker than others." The newspaper states: "The military sources state as an example that there is no coincident opinion so far on whether the president should be entitled after 1 August 1978 to appoint ministers and governors without prior consultation with the military junta."

LA PRENSA CALLS FOR END TO ROOTS OF PERONISM

FY060224Y Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 May 78 p 6 PY

[Editorial: "Clearly Established Power"]

[Excerpts] The reelection of Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla as president by the military junta will allow the government to tackle serious state matters and to make badly needed decisions.

Recent declarations by the interior minister alluding to some aspects of the past which were not highly significant, a recalcitrant inflation hand-in-hand with recession and stagnation, a delay in promulgating the labor associations law and the confusing official attitude toward the CGT [General Labor Confederation] and the labor unions--all of this is causing bewilderment which must be dispelled by clear-cut definitions. Saying out of one side of the mouth that the 24 March 1976 revolution was not launched against anybody--carefully avoiding the names Peron and Peronism--while voicing out of the other side of the mouth adherence to the 1853 constitution and promising to have ready "the basis for a political proposal," thus implying reform of the that constitution, is an attitude which causes concern because of the implied contradictions.

Aside from the establishment of some form of communism, which is discarded because this will not be tolerated by our traditional way of thinking, there are today only two other possibilities for organizing a definitive coexistence: either the restoration of the totalitarian Peronist regime or the adoption of a constitutional system. The former presupposes the existence of the CGT as the basis of the regime, receiving from the government astronomical resources derived from taxes on salaries which is represented by the compulsory union discount, thus transforming it into the most important and exclusive electoral power source. Moreover, the CGT has politically totalitarian characteristics; as for the economy, it creates government monopolies, large bureaucracies, control of interests, changes in prices and salaries, and all this is accompanied by monetary issuance, inflation, disorder, social indiscipline, terrorism and in the end, certain chaos. The constitutional system, however, is based on the limitations of government functions, eliminating its participation in industrial and business activities and restricting its intervention in the economy, prohibiting the arbitrary management of currency and of the aforementioned controls. All the other intermediate or eclectic projects, intended to be innovations, will only serve to unnaturally balance and harmonize the constitutional system, obstructing it from yielding its fruits of freedom, prosperity and development.

If the CGT is not dismantled, this organization will be used as a quarry for votes by the political parties, while the labor unions, not the party committees, will serve as pathways to power. A consequence of this will be the appearance of a new Hour of the People in one form or another, and the government will have to be blamed for this, not the political leaders who, seeking to adjust themselves to a reality they cannot change, will be forced to enter into compromises with the new Hour of the People in order to survive.

Should the power of the CGT be reduced to proper proportions through the simple expedient of doing away with compulsory payment of fees on salaries and giving back freedom to unions, political leaders would be all for it and they would proceed to take advantage of the situation so created. But the thing is, as we said before, that the government carefully avoids any reference to Peron and Peronism, just as much as it avoids any explicit condemnation of the harm brought upon the country by Peron, his party and his followers. However, blaming the old Hour of the People and its creators for the disaster is to forget the fundamental fact that the military was in power when the government was handed to Peronism both in 1945 and 1973. The consequences of that fact gives us the authority to point it out here. Those military governments were responsibile for setting the conditions and the rules under which those transfers of power were made, with their well-known results. Nobody can deny this.

Experience dictates that what we need now is to uproot the heritage of Peronism and to reestablish the system of economic and social freedom written into the constitution, while we wait for the right opportunity to revamp electoral powers. What we need, then, is a clearly established power.

Statesmen's thirst for power is to a large extent due to the possibility they see in power to carry out a program and to achieve some objectives. In purusit of those objectives, they must count on an element which is not inexhaustible and which should not be used frivolously. We are referring to that fundamental and intangible element which is time, the time available to a government to do what it must. No government can last indefinitely and the fact that this government has announced that it will hold on until fulfilling its goals is no guarantee that it will last indefinitely. So those upon whom fate conferred the unsought responsibility of power in the throes of political and social chaos are under the obligation, after completing the first phase of national reorganization, to press forward resolutely with the true revolution the country is awaiting and to do it now, taking advantage of the favorable opinion they enjoy and the legitimacy on which they stand. That resolve is necessary to dismantle the overgrown state-bureaucratic, economic and labor apparatus expected by Peronism beginning in 1945. The presence of this huge apparatus has created a succession of crises and conflicts through which the apparatus came out practically unscathed, thanks to the wealth the country had accumulated, to favorable international circumstances and to the tremendous pressure of vested interests which, being contrary to national interests, have ceased to be relevant.

Neither the time available to a process nor the power of a government are eternal, and so they must be used within the framework of a coherent and well-formulated policy, leaving no room for more ambiguities and new reasons for bewilderment.

BRIEFS

USE OF SIRENS--The Argentine federal police have issued a warning indicating that the only vehicles authorized to use sirens are police cruisers, fire trucks and ambulances, all of which should do so only in emergency situations. [Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 25 Apr 78 p 10 PY]

STEEL IMPORTS--Mar del Plata--During a ceremony in which the Australian Embassy delivered library donations to the liberal arts college here, the Australian ambassador, Harold William Bullock, stated that his country exports to Argentina nearly $35 million annually in semiprocessed steel, along with raw materials for aluminum plants. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 26 Apr 78 PY]

CHILE WARNED AGAINST FIRING BOLIVIAN WORKERS

PY0513502 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Text] Bolivians working in Chile are being dismissed from their jobs. There is a single motive behind this unilateral measure, which violates human rights: They are dismissed from their jobs only because they are Bolivian citizens.

The "Primera Edicion" program of Radio Fides has obtained a report from a highly trustworthy government source. The Chilean decision led to a telegram from Foreign Minister Oscar Adriazola to his Chilean counterpart, Patricio Carvajal. Since there are no diplomatic relations, the telegram was sent from our Foreign Ministry directly to the Chilean Foreign Ministry. After protesting the situation, Adriazola told his Chilean counterpart that the Bolivian Government reserves the right to take similar measures against Chileans working in Bolivia.

The Bolivian foreign minister confirmed a statement by President Banzer that this country respects human rights and all foreign citizens who work in Bolivia and comply with the laws in force in our fatherland.

Adriazola's telegram was sent yesterday afternoon. Radio Fides did not succeed in obtaining the complete text, but the source stressed that there is indignation at the Bolivian Foreign Ministry over the reports received from Chile.

Our consul in Santiago cannot make any diplomatic contacts. However, frequent changes reach the Foreign Ministry at Plaza Murillo and [words indistinct] in La Paz that our countrymen are dismissed from their jobs because they are Bolivians.

About 50,000 Bolivians live in Chile and it is estimated that about 20,000 Chileans work in Bolivia.

The protest by the Bolivian foreign minister pinpoints another cause of friction between the two nations after the severance of diplomatic relations of 17 March. Foreign Ministry sources said that they are confident that the Santiago government will stop the repetition of labor discrimination against our countrymen in Chile.

ADRIAZOLA SAYS TIES WITH CHILE WILL NOT BE RENEWED

PY0603302 Paris AFP in Spanish 0257 GMT 6 May 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 5 May--Bolivian Foreign Minister Oscar Adriazola rejected this afternoon any possibility of dialog between Chile and Bolivia aimed at reestablishing diplomatic relations between the governments of La Paz and Santiago.

Adriazola indicated that "the reopening of diplomatic relations with Chile will be conditioned on a solution to the Bolivian maritime problem."

The local press asked the minister about remarks made by Sergio Onofre Jarpa, Chilean ambassador to Argentina, regarding the possibility of dialog to reestablish diplomatic relations. Adriazola answered: "I have not been informed of it."

SAN ANDRES UNIVERSITY TO REOPEN 1 JUNE

PY050333Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] Official sources today announced that the now-closed Greater University of San Andres, the nation's most important university, will reopen on 1 June. This decision was made today by the Superior National Education Council, an organization created by the government and whose authority is not recognized by a single student movement.

Meanwhile, news reports today stated that almost 6,000 students of the Garbriel N. Moreno University of Santa Cruz began a general strike for 48 hours to protest alleged official neglect and to demand democratization of this learning center.

The announcement concerning the reopening of the Greater University of San Andres was followed by student statements which reiterated their opposition to the present authorities, and demanded reestablishment of all democratic rights for university students.

THREE ARRESTED STUDENTS RELEASED; CHARGES PENDING

PY060131Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Text] The three students who were arrested by police last week were freed today, according to sources of the Revolutionary Front of the Left [FRI]. Despite their release, a suit against the three students continues in force, and they are awaiting the outcome of the habeas corpus plea presented by the FRI on their behalf.

The first habeas corpus hearing took place this morning. Neither the rector of the La Paz university nor the three students attended this hearing. In view of the circumstances, the judges decided to suspend the hearing and hold it next Tuesday morning.

After interrogating the three arrested students [as heard], the judges decided to release them. Despite this, the FRI will continue presenting the habeas corpus plea so that the suit against the three students will be suspended.

VILLAPANDO CONCERNED OVER ARMED PEASANTS

PY060347Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0301 GMT 6 May 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 5 May--Army Commander Gen Alfonso Villapando expressed his concern here today over the existence of armed civilian groups in the country. Villapando blamed the years 1952-1964 as responsible for the fact that hundreds of peasants are still in possession of weapons, "although most of them are obsolete." He concluded: "Weapons must be kept in the hands of the armed forces and the police, institutions in charge of safeguarding the fatherland and the security of its citizens."

ORURO DEPARTMENT STRIKES FOR MINISTERIAL ATTENTION

PY061525Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 May 78 PY

[Text] The general strike in the city of Oruro will continue until Planning and Coordination Minister Juan Lechin Suarez and Labor Minister Mario Vargas Salinas appear in that city. This decision was made yesterday afternoon after a meeting of members of the Oruro Department emergency committee.

The committee members demand a government solution regarding various development projects and plans for Oruro, saying that government officials have unduly postponed solution of those problems.

In the last few hours the strike became more serious and travelers between Oruro, Cochabamba, La Paz and several mining centers had problems. Over (?2,000) people who are in transit throughout Oruro city are stranded in the city's plazas and marketplaces. They have asked city officials to give them lodging and food. Many of them have minors with them. Travellers going to La Paz have demanded a solution to their problems, according to a report from our correspondent in Oruro, who is the head of the emergency committee.

He also reported that mining centers such as Huanuni and Bolivar have joined the strike, and it is expected that Colquiri will also follow suit. The emergency committee announced that the strike will be called off when the planning and coordination and labor minister arrive in Oruro. No new measures will be taken before noon and the Oruro protest movement will continue at least until 1200 today, Saturday.

The committee also reported that it has received a telegram from President Banzer asking it to call off this extreme measure, stating that the two ministers have been given instructions to begin negotiations to that end. The committee members concluded by stating that the strike will continue indefinitely, even for emergency services, unless each of the requests of Oruro Department is met within a framework of justice.

Government Acts

PY061607Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 May 78 PY

[Text] The government has authorized the Finance Ministry to negotiate and contract a foreign credit of $4.5 million to finance the building of a sports stadium in Oruro city, in an attempt to solve a problem which has emerged in Oruro Department, where activities have been brought to a standstill in a demand for attention from the government, as we have reported.

While the $4.5-million credit is being sought, the Bolivian Central Bank will grant a credit of 20 million Bolivian pesos so that the project can be started without loss of time. This was one of the main topics discussed by the cabinet during yesterday's meeting.

The labor minister [Mario Vargas Salinas], who has been entrusted with going to Oruro to explain the intentions of the government to civic organizations of that department, referred to the Oruro stadium project in the following words:

[begin Vargas Salinas recording] The commission for the Oruro stadium should follow all the rules of law. The opening of bids from enterprises interested in its building should therefore take place this afternoon. Following a cabinet decision, I am going to Oruro to contact the parties which will [words indistinct] of the stadium and the enterprise which wins the bid. [end recording]

The coordination and planning minister [Juan Lechin Suarez], who has also been instructed by the government to go to Oruro, spoke about the problem in the following way:

[begin Lechin Suarez recording] [Words indistinct] but it seems to me that the civic organizations in Oruro have made a mistake regarding the capacity or powers of the Planning and Coordination Ministry to make decisions. My ministry simply coordinates [words indistinct]. [end recording]

He then referred to the presidential decree authorizing the government to contract a foreign credit of $4 million. [figure as head] [recorded passage indistinct]

PEREDA ASBUN STRESSES NATIONALISM AT UNP SUCRE RALLY

PY051710Y [Editorial Report] Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish at 1530 GMT on 5 May 1978 carries live from the central plaza in Sucre a rally of the People's Nationalist Union [UNP], marking a visit to the city by official presidential candidate Gen Juan Pereda Asbun. Following introductory speeches in Spanish and Quechua by local leaders, Pereda Asbun begins to speak at 1616 GMT.

Pereda opens by stressing the cultural importance of Sucre to Bolivia and condemning what he terms a "small minority" which supported "chaos and anarchy" and which "tried to replace our leaders with people with foreign ideologies." Describing the position of his party, he says: "Basically we are nationalists, because we believe that we must maintain our traditions, preserve our religion and seek solutions to our problems basically without" foreign help and "without foreign influence." This is the way we Bolivians should manage ourselves.

"We are also nationalists because we basically believe in the continuity of a structure of peace and tranquillity" which this country merits. Our strength is based on this ideology "and the seriousness of our platform, and we guarantee that tomorrow we will create a democratic government."

After appealing for support for nationalism, he details Bolivia's need for harmonious development and talks of specific local projects which he supports. The speech concludes at 1634 GMT and the radio ends its live relay.

FUDP ENTERS INTO ALLIANCE WITH PRIN

PY060226Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 May 78 PY

[Text] To maintain the unity of the working class, the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP] decided in its last meeting to unite with the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left [PRIN], which is led by Juan Lechin Oquendo. This was disclosed to Radio Panamericana by official FUDP sources who added that this decision will be reported to Lechin Oquendo in a few hours.

The FUDP, therefore, decided that Lechin Oquendo, the present executive secretary of the Bolivian Labor Central and the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia, should accompany Siles Zuazo as vice presidential candidate in the 9 July elections. It was noted that the FUDP is in this way seeking a unificiation of leftist forces which took part in the revolution of 9 April 1952.

These sources stated that the aim of the unification of leftist parties which started the revolution is the strengthening of the working classes during the difficult time which the country is experiencing and at a time in which the future of Bolivia is uncertain.

According to reports disclosed to Radio Panamericana, the FUDP will not seek a coalition with Trotskyite parties, with revolutionary Bolivian workers parties or with the Bolivian Communist Marxist-Leninist Party.

It was noted that these are ultraleftist parties having different positions and tactics which are not appropriate for the present national situation and are in disagreement with FUDP principles.

REVOLUTIONARY FRONT SEEKS ELECTORAL CHANGES

PY031743Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 May 78 PY

[Text] The Revolutionary Front of the Left [FRI], headed by Manuel Morales Davila, has sent a petition to the National Electoral Court asking for new election of court members who represent the political parties. The FRI is composed of representatives of some radical leftist parties and labor and peasant organizations. This front is engaged in negotiations with the other front, headed by Siles Zuazo, to create a single force.

The FRI asks for modification of Article 159 of the electoral law, which says that labor union leaders in office cannot be elected for president, vice president, senator or deputy unless they resign 60 days before the election. The FRI says that this article restricts the legitimate rights of the workers.

It also requests that three deputies be elected for department capitals [words indistinct] and simple majority of votes, that is, two for the majority and one for the minority. It demands the repeal of Article 156, which requires that deputies and senators must know how to read. It says that, if the law recognizes the capacity of illiterates to vote, they cannot be denied the right to become elected.

The FRI also requested that the voting age by lowered to 18 years; that a multicolor and multisymbol ballot be used; and that certain aspects of the organization of the national and departmental electoral courts be changed.

The FRI then requests that television, Radio Illimani and other communications media of the state should cede obligatory space to the parties for election campaigning.

LEFTISTS SAID TO FACE OBSTACLES TO FURTHER UNITY

PY051405Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Text] The unity of the two leftist fronts is becoming ever more difficult, despite efforts made by some leaders of the member political parties. The high-level meeting which was to be held between former President Siles Zuazo and mineworkers leader Juan Lechin Oquendo has not occurred, although it was announced.

Most of the medium-level leaders are busy with internal problems and are making very little effort to achieve preliminary contact. Only a few of them are engaged in this and have succeeded in holding talks, but only of a private nature.

The greatest obstacles to the joining of the Revolutionary Front of the Left and the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP] are posed by participation of the so-called radical leftists, on the one hand, and those qualified as rightists, on the other. In other words, the FUDP does not look with much sympathy upon some groups which include armed struggle in their political methods, and the FRI rejects any possibility of an alliance with Paz Estenssoro's National Revolutionary Movement and Guevara's Authentic Revolutionary Party.

O ESTADO: GEISEL TURNED DOWN CARTER INVITATION

PY051525Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1502 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo, 4 May--According to the morning daily O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, Brazilian President Ernesto Geisel has declined an invitation by U.S. President Jimmy Carter to visit the United States "because his term in office is about to end."

O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO reported that Geisel gave this explanation to Carter in Brasilia in March. The U.S. President accepted this explanation and asked Geisel if he could invite his successor. Geisel answered that there was no objection to that.

The newspaper stressed, however, that Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo, who had been appointed Geisel's successor around the time that Carter visited Brazil, had not been invited by the White House.

General Geisel's term in office as president of the nation will end in March 1979.

GEISEL, FIGUEIREDO AGREE TO REPLACE AI-5

PY060016Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2340 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 5 May--President Ernesto Geisel and his designated successor, Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo, have already approved several reforms designed to reduce the arbitrary character of the military regime, it was reported here today in political circles.

Figuring prominently among the projected reforms to be presented to the Congress before the end of the month is the revocation of the famous Institutional Act No 5 [AI-5], which authorizes exceptional powers to the president, replacing it with constitutional safeguards yet to be defined.

Petronio Portella, president of the Senate, will attempt next week to obtain the backing of the opposition Brazilian Democratic Movement for these reforms to achieve a broad parliamentary consensus.

According to sources close to the government which were quoted today by the Brazilian press, these reforms "will agreeably surprise" political circles, although they probably will not be implemented until the beginning of next year.

They also indicated that AI-5 will be replaced by a number of guarantees which will allow the state to defend itself against subversion, leaving to the president the power to proclaim a "state of emergency" in the event of disturbances.

FIGUEIREDO SEEKS BALANCED POLITICAL REFORMS

PY052015Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] In Brasilia Senate President Petronio Portella said after his 1-and-1/2-hour meeting with General Figueiredo that they examined future political reforms and Figueiredo expressed the desire that the reforms benefit everybody, including the opposition. During his visit at Planalto Petronio also met for half an hour with Gen Golbery Couto e Silva, chief of civilian household.

NEW GOVERNMENT WILL CREATE MORE STATES

PY051627Y Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Text] In Campo Grande Interior Minister Rangel Reis has announced that during the next administration the national territory will be further divided, and advanced studies are already under consideration. Rangel Reis hinted that the Amazonas and west-center regions are under consideration [for new states].

MAGALHAES PINTO TO LAUNCH NEW MOVEMENT FOR REDEMOCRATIZATION

PY051740Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 May 78 p 2 PY

[Text] Belo Horizonte and Recife--While Senator Magalhaes Pinto was again criticizing President Geisel in Belo Horizonte yesterday, saying that General Geisel "is sure that he is the Almighty and that he can do anything he wants," and was also warning that "the reaction of the people may be unforeseeable," National Renewal Alliance [ARENA] Deputy Lins e Silva was saying in Recife that the independent presidential candidate will announce on 12 May, in Recife, the formation of a "front for the redemocratization of the country." According to the deputy, the movement will be nationwide.

Pinto confirmed that he will continue his campaign, "struggling for the redemocratization of Brazil." After guaranteeing that he is "apparently just one man," he answered a question as to whether he would receive the support of the military: "The Brazilian Armed Forces are for democracy. I only receive discrete expressions of support from them, as befits their military character. Of course, I am not campaigning among them."

He added: "I am not trying to create difficulties. I defend understandings--except, of course, understandings in exchange for government positions. The government must listen to the people, and if it does not want to listen, the people will grow tired. It is sufficient to talk to people to sense the existence of a quiet revolt."

Regarding the appointment of Deputy Francelino Pereira, national ARENA president, as governor of Minas Gerais, Pinto said he would rather not discuss the appointment. "I am against the process of choosing governors, and the president used his free will in the name of the revolution. Now between us, when a decision is made without consultation and arbitrarily, it is said that it is a revolutionary act." He added: "The revolution was made precisely to calm the people and to put our house in order, but they came up with the idea that free will is a revolutionary act. I do not agree. I believe we are on a dangerous slope. I think that out of loyalty we must regain the course of the revolution and seek the establishment of a democratic state of law."

Regarding his candidacy for senator by direct vote, Pinto, without concealing his resentment, said that the Minas Gerais ARENA did not consider him while he was engaged in a national campaign as candidate for the presidency. Although he was open to an understanding, he asserted that "concern for the election alone does not please me."

According to Deputy Lins e Silva, the "front for redemocratization of the country" to be announced by Pinto will involve "all sectors of Brazilian society which have already expressed obvious signs of concern." Nevertheless, he added: "It will not follow the example of the former broad front, which the government declared illegal 10 years ago. It will be a movement without leaders and without headquarters."

Lins e Silva feels that the Minas Gerais senator chose Recife to begin his campaign because "this capital of Pernambuco State has already fought several liberating battles." The ceremony will take place at the political reporters club in Recife.

The ARENA deputy said what he thinks of his party: "I have the impression that ARENA is experiencing the worst days of a political quarantine, at the same time as the government is trying to call the people to the ballot box."

FRENCH ENVOY SAYS NUCLEAR PACT MAY BE SIGNED IN OCTOBER

PY051617Y Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Text] According to the French ambassador to Brazil, France and Brazil may sign a nuclear cooperation agreement. The agreement would be signed during Giscard d'Estaing's visit to Brazil scheduled for next October.

POLAND TO BUY $250 MILLION IN TEXTILES

PY061603Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 May 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Poland will purchase Brazilian textiles worth $250 million during the course of a year, according to an agreement signed (?last night) between the two countries. Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira told newsmen that his country has extended a credit line for this purpose to reduce the high Brazilian trade deficit with Poland.

CACEX GIVES DETAILS OF FIRST QUARTER EXPORTS

PY041854Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1237 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 4 May--According to official statistics released here today, Brazilian exports during the first quarter of 1978 increased 15 percent in volume but decreased 0.19 percent in value with regard to the same period in 1977.

Statistics released by the Foreign Trade Department of the Brazilian Bank (CACEX) indicate that during the first quarter of this year Brazil exported 21,083,401 tons of various products worth $2,683,528,000, compared to 18,312,698 tons and $2,688,577,000 respectively for the same period last year.

During the first quarter of this year Brazil exported 19,031,623 tons of raw materials worth $1,234,970,000, compared to 16,687,821 tons and $1,611,896,000 respectively for the same period in 1977.

During the first 3 months of 1978 Brazil exported 1,579,348 tons of industrial products worth $1,380,970,000, compared to 966,884 tons and $1,003,401,000 respectively for the same period in 1977.

This year there was an increase in the volume and value of the following exported products: raw cotton, thread and textiles of this product; wood; mate; pig iron; shoes; mechanical and electrical instruments and equipment; bananas; tobacco; wool; iron and manganese; cocoa and cocoa butter; horsemeat; and soybeans and soybean byproducts.

There was a decrease in the volume and value of the following exported products: rice, silk thread, castor oil, corn, sisal, frozen and canned beef, coffee beans and instant coffee and meat extract.

Exports of sugar and molasses of sugarcane increased in volume but decreased in value during the first quarter of this year.

During this quarter Brazil exported 96,776 tons of coffee beans and instant coffee worth $428,238,000, compared to 240,123 tons and $1,021,460,000 respectively during the first quarter of last year.

During this quarter Brazil exported 585,191 tons of raw and refined sugar worth $107,302,000, compared to 549,052 tons and $113,082,000 respectively during the first quarter of last year.

Brazil also exported 1,236,615 tons of soybeans and soybean byproducts worth $258,873,000, compared to 760,459 and $171,462,000 respectively for the same period in 1977.

The export of cocoa in pods and cocoa butter reached 27,786 tons worth $90,133,000, compared to 17,290 tons and $63,397,000 respectively during the same quarter of last year.

According to official estimates, the drought which affected agriculture this year and the decrease in prices of other products of this sector in the international market, including coffee and sugar, will create a reduction in the value of Brazilian agricultural exports.

According to the same estimates, it is believed that this reduction will be balanced by exports of industrial products, which increased 63 percent in volume and 37.63 percent in value during the first quarter of this year.

AZEREDO PRAISES USSR DECISION ON TLATELOLCO TREATY

PY061247Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0428 GMT 6 May 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 5 May--Speaking here tonight, Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira praised the announcement by the Soviet Union of its intention to join the Tlatelolco treaty, which declares Latin America a denuclearized zone.

That announcement was made by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev at the end of April during a communist youth meeting attended by delegates from over 100 countries.

In a statement to the press, Da Silveira called the announcement "very positive" and stressed that it shows an inclination among those with nuclear technology to preserve denuclearized zones in the world by assuming certain commitments.

ARGENTINA APPEARS TO ACCEPT MINISTERIAL TALKS FOR PARANA

PY061416Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0350 GMT 6 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 5 May--Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Francisco Azeredo da Silveira asserted here tonight that the date for a meeting with his Argentine and Paraguayan colleagues has not yet been set.

During a talk with reporters, Azeredo da Silveira indicated the proposal submitted by Argentina and Paraguay during the recent trilateral meeting held at the end of April in the Paraguayan capital "is correct but complex. The details can be negotiated in accordance with the interests of the three countries."

Da Silveira termed "very positive" the remarks made on Thursday by the Argentine ambassador to Brazil, Oscar Camilion, during a Brazilian television interview. He had asserted that "it is not too early to disclose that we will have a foreign ministers meeting."

According to the Brazilian minister, the Argentine ambassador's statement can be interpreted as acceptance of Brazil's invitation for a meeting at ministerial level in Brasilia to seek a solution to the question of the Parana dams.

O ESTADO ASSAILS ARGENTINE 'INTRANSIGENCE' IN PARANA TALKS

PY041448Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 May 78 p 3 PY

[From "Notes and Information" page: "Argentine Intransigence in the River Plate"]

[Text] Just as we always criticized the "chauvinistic great power" attitude which marked the positions assumed by the Brazilian Government for a few months in its relations with Argentina, we must now recognize that the Buenos Aires government should be held responsible for the lack of agreement in the River Plate Basin. Before Brazil decided to accept the principle of trilateral talks to discuss the coordination of Itaipu and Corpus, the Argentine Foreign Ministry defended the theory, which we support, that the problems existing between Buenos Aires and Brasilia were essentially of a political nature and thus had to be solved at the presidential level. Brazil refused to accept the Argentine theory, noting that there were a few technical problems which had to be solved prior to a political agreement.

Now that the technical problems have been solved; now that Argentina has detailed information on Itaipu and the possible alternatives in its operation, it has become necessary to make a political decision which will result in full exploitation of the [Parana] River. At this time, faced with a Brazilian proposal to hold a meeting of foreign ministers of the three countries, the Argentine delegation at the technical meeting held in Asuncion rejected the proposal, reiterating that a meeting of foreign ministers could be held only after the problem of the height of Corpus Dam--which will be built downstream from Itaipu--had been solved. Hence, the positions have been reversed, and Argentina should now be held responsible for the lack of agreement.

The Brazilian position is correct from the standpoint of international law and our national interests. Establishing that 103 meters above the sea level is the maximum height for Corpus acceptable to Brasilia, Brazilian officials have gone as far as they could, especially if we consider that prior to the agreements reached in Asuncion during the previous tripartite talks the maximum height for Corpus was set at 98.5 meters, because if it were higher it would not only affect Itaipu's generating power but would also entail the flooding of extensive areas of national territory.

According to the best available information, the Argentine delegation in Asuncion took greater account of Argentine domestic political problems than of the two suggestions made by Brazil: the 103-meter height and the meeting of foreign ministers. It is difficult for a layman to understand why negotiations have stagnated just because the Brazilian delegation proposed a height of 103 meters, instead of proposing 105 meters as was expected.

It is proper to note, however, that each meter yielded by Brazil above the 98.5-meter level for Corpus will mean an actual reduction of 500,000 KW in Itaipu's generating capacity. Thus, by agreeing to a 103-meter height, Brazil will be losing approximately 2.250 million KW of actual power at Itaipu. In its proposal, Brazil intends to recover this power through operational agreements which will allow Itaipu to operate not as a basic unit but as a demand unit, that is, using a larger volume of water at certain hours to generate more energy. In addition to this concession, which could be implemented only with Argentine agreement (not to speak of Paraguayan), Brazil is making another concession--that is, by raising Corpus it is allowing the flooding of part of the nation.

Incapable of accepting the Brazilian proposal and afraid to disrupt the sensitive political equilibrium between the Argentine Army and Navy, the Argentine delegation rejected the Brazilian proposal. But, furthermore, failing to recognize that the problem has now become a political issue (since any height above 98.5 meters for Corpus will affect Brazilian sovereignty), the Argentine delegation did not accept the Brazilian proposal for a meeting of foreign ministers to reach an agreement which would meet the interests of the three countries, not only that of Brazil. In making this proposal, Brazil did not give any ultimatum to Argentina: It only clarified that lower level negotiators no longer have the authority to discuss the kinds of problems which must now be resolved. In rejecting the Brazilian proposal, the Argentines have shown their intransigence, which prevents them from reaching a broad agreement with Brazil and jeopardizes the harmonious exploitation of the Parana River, which has always been Argentina's favorite theory.

Regarding Corpus, Brazil has given as many technical concessions as it can. It is now up to the foreign ministers to make the necessary political decisions.

SIMONSEN TO INVITE MARTINEZ DE HOZ FOR VISIT

PY061556Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 May 78 p 6 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--To demonstrate the Brazilian Government's desire to maintain normal diplomatic and economic relations with Argentina, Finance Minister Mario Henrique Simonsen will invite his Argentine counterpart, Jose Martinez de Hoz, to visit Brazil.

Martinez's visit will permit discussion of ways to expedite economic cooperation and will be instrumental in eliminating bureaucratic difficulties jeopardizing trade between the two countries. The lack of a high-level, political agreement between Brazil and Argentina has prevented any initiative to change the present situation.

Since trade depends on political negotiations, the nearly $1 billion worth of trade--which is considered significant by experts--could be expanded if normal political relations are established.

BRIEFS

COFFEE CONTRABAND--The director of internal consumption of the Brazilian Coffee Institute, Guilherme Braga de Abreu Filho, has denounced the rising tide of coffee smuggling to Paraguay. In Londrina, Parana, alone from September 1977 to February 1978, 9,000 bags were seized. Inspectors from the Brazilian Coffee Institute will be deployed in border areas to tighten control on amounts of coffee produced and transported in border areas. [Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 27 Apr 78 PY]

PINOCHET OUTLINES 'AUTHORITARIAN DEMOCRACY'

PY052102Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 May 78 PY

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet stated today that it is better to live in a democracy under a strong government than under a democratic government with terror and violence. He also announced that the regionalization of the country will not change the current numbers of countries [comunas].

The president made these remarks when he want to greet the participants of the national seminar of the Chilean Mothers Association [CEMACHILE] which is being held at the government house shortly before he left for the tour which will take him to the first and second regions. After greeting the particpants, the president reaserted that the government is moving toward the new institutional system.

[begin Pinochet recording] At this point the government is working on the new institutional system, step by step. I want to make it very clear that we are not in a hurry. No one must try to hurry us. The only ones who are in a hurry are the politicians. We are not in a hurry. Thus, we are working on the new institutional system step by step and without any haste. [end recording]

The chief of state reasserted that the government will not be handed over to the politicians [words indistinct] ever since 11 September 1973.

[begin Pinochet recording] We are not going to hand over power to the politicans [words indistinct] Chile once again. [applause] You will recall that 11 September was very costly in terms of lives. It ended a dangerous chaos [words indistinct] facing hardships and struggles. There were dead and wounded on both sides. Therefore, the government cannot be handed over without making sure first that the new government will be a government capable of preserving peace, order and democracy. [end recording]

Later, the president indicated that traditional democracy has been overcome and insisted that a strong government is necessary.

[begin Pinochet recording] I want to tell you that the people have overcome traditional democracy. They must do it. Nowadays it is better to live in a democracy protected by a strong government than to live with a democratic government which allows terror and violence, which is what has been happening, as you well know, in many parts of the world. Therefore, gentlemen, we are seeking an authoritarian democracy capable of protecting, not ourselves--personally I am too old--but our children, our families, our grandchildren. This is what we are looking for and this is what we are working on. [end recording]

Finally the president discussed the subjects raised during the seminar and stated that the regionalization of the country will maintain the current number of countries. [begin Pinochet recording] I issued the order yesterday: There will be no change in the number of counties. The 200 counties will continue in operation. I believe that to begin reducing the number of counties would be a mistake; therefore, we will continue with our studies and we will try to apply the municipality law, but the counties will remain the same. [end recording] The president concluded by emphasizing the importance of this seminar which bring things up to date and gives rise to an exchange of ideas which is always positive.

MINISTER DENIES DESTABILIZATION ATTEMPTS BY UNITED STATES

PA071926Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1910 GMT 7 May 78 PA

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 7 May (LATIN)--Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos said in an interview published today by the newspaper EL MERCURIO that it is not true that President Jimmy Carter is seeking to "destabilize" the Chilean military government.

"I am convinced that this is not so. I believe that people who disagree with me on this do so more on the basis of their personal desires than on a dispassionate analysis of the facts," the minister said. He added: "The present U.S. Government has emphasized its concern for political morality. A plot against the Chilean Government would brutally contradict that concern.

"I have no doubt that the great powers gather information about what is occurring in other nations, but no country, and certainly not Chile, is helpless if such actions develop into actual interference in our domestic affairs.

"The world is too conscious of these things today for them to be carried out in the shadows. I am also sure that we have the means to safeguard our own security and sovereignty," the minister added.

RETURN OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVISTS, MARXISTS BANNED

PY051455Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network 1030 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile--Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez has expressed his firm and thoughtful decision to not allow the return to the country of any person involved in the international campaign against Chile or any activist of international Marxism.

This decision was announced in a communique signed by the minister, stating that Decree Law 604 empowers the government to prohibit the return to the country of persons who are carrying out activities contrary to Chile's interests or harmful to state security, even if their reasons for leaving Chile are none of those specified by Decree Law 81.

The Interior Ministry communique adds that it is important to make the people aware that the spirit of conciliation which guides the government does not change the legal status of persons referred to by Decree Laws 81 and 604.

The communique goes on to indicate that, in line with those decrees, each request for a return to the country will be studied individually and on the basis of personal records, a procedure which had been put into effect before the recently issued amnesty.

The communique adds that it would be totally contradictory for a government involved in the pacification of the country to permit the return to Chile of those who, through the so-called "resistance" against our government, merely seek to put an end to the victory which Chile won on 11 September 1973, and unleash the destructive hatred which almost led the country to civil war.

FOREIGN MINISTER CUBILLOS TO VISIT PERU 14-16 MAY

PY060344Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] The minister of foreign affairs will visit Peru. The announcement was made by Minister Hernan Cubillos himself, who also spoke about other interesting aspects of international relations concerning our country. The invitation from Peruvian Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente Radbill was made in view of the excellent relations existing between the two countries, according to the minister.

The minister indicated that other examples of good Chilean-Peruvian relations, in addition to reciprocal military visits, are his upcoming visit and the high rank of the ambassador which Peru has appointed to Santiago. We should recall that Peruvian Ambassador Gen Guillermo Arbulu will present his credentials to President Augusto Pinochet on Thursday, 11 May.

Foreign Minister Cubillos also referred to Chile's unchanging stand with regard to the Bolivian dispute. He said that there were no new developments in the field, and that the Chilean Government had not taken any steps to reestablish diplomatic relations.

The minister said he is willing to resume talks with Bolivia under appropriate circumstances, but that Chile's present stand regarding the offer made for a possible sea outlet for Bolivia will not change.

RELATIVES OF MISSING APPEAL TO ARMED FORCES OFFICERS

PY062009Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1726 GMT 6 May 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 6 May--It was reported here today that relatives of Chileans who have allegedly disappeared have sent letters to all generals and admirals of the armed forces, explaining "the situation which is troubling them."

The letter, which was also delivered to national and foreign news media, requests meetings with the high-ranking officers "for the purpose of giving them specific data on the various cases of disappearances which have occurred in Chile since 11 September 1973."

The letter says: "There are over 560 cases of missing persons, and none of them has been solved so far." The document adds that "this situation has caused so much international anxiety that attempts to improve the image of the government cannot be successful until the situation of the missing persons is clarified. The letter then points out that the amnesty recently decreed by the government "does not benefit those who were detained by the security services and then disappeared." The letter continues: "Our descendants will not rest, nor will Chileans with clear consciences rest, so long as this sad event in our history is not clarified once and for all."

Regarding efforts made by relatives of missing detainees, including applications to the courts and to administrative and government officials, it is said that "none of them has led to any positive result."

The letter concludes: "We ask that the generals and admirals plead with the president to publish the result of the investigation the government promised to make, or to initiate that investigation as soon as possible."

SUPREME COURT RULES CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY PLAN UNCONSTITUTIONAL

PA060142Y Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] The latest news we have received from our reporter at the Supreme Court of Justice indicates that Article 14 of the legislative act which created the national constituent assembly--which has just been rejected by the Supreme Court--was saved. Article 14 established the separation of elections. Therefore, the 4 June presidential elections will not be affected. They will be held according to schedule.

It must be stressed that with this decision, the Supreme Court recovered the constitutional mandate which gives it the right to monitor the execution of the constitution. It has recovered for itself this [words indistinct] which placed the court in an inferior position regarding its mission of monitoring execution of the constitution.

The Supreme Court cast 14 votes against the constituent assembly and 10 votes in favor. Thus, one of the greatest hopes of President Lopez Michelsen has been destroyed. He had hoped that the constituent assembly would reform Colombian justice and the political-administrative system of municipalities and departments.

Tomorrow in Radio Santa Fe's newscast, we will have statements by important political and legal figures regarding this controversial decision, which destroys one of the greatest aspirations of President Lopez Michelsen and his administration. The constituent assembly was rejected by a vote of 14 to 10.

Government Leaders React

PA061935Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 May 78 PA

[Text] Cartagena, Colombia--President Alfonso Lopez Michselsen and Liberal candidate Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala spoke last night by telephone about the resounding defeat suffered by the constituent assembly plan at the hands of the Supreme Court. Turbay contacted Lopez by telephone from Cartagena. Lopez is in Islas del Rosario.

The details of the conversation are unknown. The country is anxiously awaiting the statements by the chief of state following the final collapse of an initiative he has earnestly defended during the last 2 years of his constitutional mandate.

Last night, Government Minister Alfredo Araujo Grau and Justice Minister Cesar Gomez Estrada deplored the Supreme Court ruling in statements to this station in Cartagena and Bogota, respectively. Meanwhile, government congressmen expressed regrets over the Supreme Court ruling, while opposition congressmen welcomed the collapse of the constituent assembly plan with unconcealed joy.

Since the Supreme Court ruling cannot be appealed, the candidates of the two traditional parties--Julio Cesar Turbay for the Liberal Party and Belisario Betancur for the Conservative Party--last night promised to submit to Congress after 7 August the amendments which the now defunct constituent assembly was supposed to discuss.

Liberals Deplore Court Ruling

PA060318Y Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Liberal Party tonight deplored the fact that the Supreme Court of Justice had denied the country the chance to undertake the great reform of the municipal and departmental justice systems by declaring unconstitutional the legislative act calling for a constitutional [as heard] assembly.

According to several qualified Liberal spokesmen, it is a pity that the court has made this decision because now at least 2 years will be needed to further these urgent reforms.

GOVERNMENT REFUSES TO DEAL WITH U.S. BIOLOGIST'S KIDNAPERS

PA062006Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The government announced today that it will not yield to the demands of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] for the release of U.S. biologist Richard Starr, who was kidnaped over 1 year ago in the La Macarena mountains.

In a letter to the U.S. Embassy, FARC made an offer to exchange Starr for guerrilla Jaime Guaracas, who is regarded by the seditious group as a political prisoner. Guaracas is serving a long sentence at the island prison of Gorgona in the Pacific.

A government spokesman said that the proposal is unacceptable because the government is not in a position to negotiate with outlaws.

BOMB PARTLY DESTROYS MRN HEADQUARTERS IN CALI

PA050127Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] Cali--A powerful bomb exploded this afternoon at the headquarters of the National Renewal Movement [MRN], led by Gen Alvaro Valencia Tovar (Retired). The explosion partly destroyed the MRN's headquarters on the first floor of a 3-story building in downtown Cali. The police said there were no casualties although there was heavy damage.

This is the third terrorist attack in Cali during the past 24 hours. Yesterday, bombs destroyed a civil defense vehicle and the residence of a high executive of the Cementos del Valle plant in Yumbo.

Withdrawal of Tovar's Candidacy Denied

PA060244Y Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 2330 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] A spokesman of the youth branch of the National Renewal Movement [MRN] told Radio Santa Fe this afternoon that it is untrue that Gen Alvaro Valencia Tovar has withdrawn his candidacy or is even thinking about withdrawing. The denial was made as a result of rumors in various news media that Gen Valencia Tovar had withdrawn his candidacy in view of the wave of terrorist attacks on the headquarters of his political movement in Bucaramanga and Cali.

Hernan Diaz, of the MRN youth branch, said that the rumor is being spread by the enemies of Gen Valencia Tovar's candidacy and is probably related to the attacks on the MRN offices in Cali and Bucaramanga.

OIL TANKER FLEET WILL BECOME STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISE

PA051728Y Quito La Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1243 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] The government has decided to change the Ecuadorean Oil Tanker Fleet [FLOPEC] from a joint company into a state enterprise. FLOPEC's main objective will be to engage in the commercial transportation by sea and river of oil and oil byproducts as well as in all other activities related to this trade.

OFFICIAL REPORTS INCREASE IN OIL SALES ABROAD

PA051536Y Quito La Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1243 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] (Neiman Cheng), the acting natural resources minister, said yesterday that Eucador's oil exports have increased substantially of late. He attributed the increase to measures the Natural Resources Ministry has taken through the marketing committee of the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation to expand and guarantee the country's international crude market.

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL DENIES REGISTRATION TO THREE GROUPS

PA062347Y Quito La Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 May 78 PA

[Excerpts] The Supreme Electoral Tribunal has turned down requests submitted by two political groups which wanted to be recognized as political parties. They are the Popular Democratic Movement [Movimiento Popular Democratico--MPD], which is sponsoring the presidential candidacy of Camilo Mena, and the Popular Democracy-Christian Democratic Union [Democracia Popular-Union Democratica Cristiana--DP-UDC], which is sponsoring the vice presidential candidacy of Osvaldo Hurtado Larrea.

In referring to the MPD in a statement just released to the news media, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal said that a review of its records indicates that the MPD has 23,803 valid membership signatures out of a total of 31,490 signatures submitted. Therefore, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal resolved to deny the request submitted by the MPD due to an insufficiency of members' signatures to meet the minimum percentage established by law in reference to the last electoral register.

Concerning the group which is promoting Osvaldo Hurtado Larrea for vice president, the electoral tribunal said that the members' signatures submitted correspond to three different political groups: DP-UDC, the Christian Democratic Party of Ecuador and People's Democracy. Analysis of the signatures establishes that the Christian Democratic Party has 3,095 valid signatures out of the 3,678 submitted, that People's Democracy has 17,670 valid signatures out of 25,575 submitted and that DP-UDC has 5,210 valid signatures out of 6,428 submitted.

The electoral tribunal added that the DP-UDC did not comply with the provisions of Article 10 of the political parties law and that Article 18 of the same law permits only legally established parties to form coalitions but contains no provisions for political groups which are not recognized as political parties. Consequently, the electoral tribunal resolved to deny the recognition requested by the DP-UDC. Meanwhile, the Democratic Left [ID] has been recognized since the tribunal determined that it has 28,116 valid signatures out of the 36,214 submitted. It determined that the group has a national organization with leadership bodies in more than 10 provinces of the country, including two of the three most densely populated provinces.

The tribunal decided to recognize the ID as a political party and therefore proceeded to register the ID in the tribunal's registry with the number 12.

Concerning the presidential candidacy of economist Abdon Calderon Munoz, which is being sponsored by the Alfarist Radical Front [FRA], the electoral tribunal states that 47,257 signatures were submitted and that 33,701 were found to be valid. It determined that the group has leadership bodies in more than 10 provinces of the country, including two of the three most densely populated ones. Consequently, the tribunal resolved to recognize FRA as a political party and ordered its registration with the Supreme Electoral Tribunal with the number 14.

The two political groups hoping to be recognized as political parties have 24 hours in which to make a final appeal.

HUERTA MONTALVO COMMENTS ON DISQUALIFICATION OF HIS CANDIDACY

PA0512002Y Quito La Voz de los Andes in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Excerpt] After learning of the Supreme Court's decision confirming the disqualification of his candidacy, Dr Francisco Huerta Montalvo, presidential nominee of the Radical Liberal Party of Ecuador, noted that there has been a virtual breakdown of the plan for legal reorganization of the state. He also expressed firm determination to maintain a permanent campaign of criticism and political struggle on behalf of the genuine Ecuadorean people.

Dr Francisco Huerta Montalvo also remarked: [begin Huerta Montalvo recording] Our determination remains as far as these mistakes are concerned. We are going to insist that they are mistakes because we feel that it is a fundamental duty to discuss the motives behind this disqualification which has been confirmed by the so-called Supreme Court of Justice.

First of all, we will voice our gratitude as Ecuadoreans to those court officials (?who) to some extent have saved the dignity of that body and then reiterate that a Mafia of drug traffickers cannot impose their will on the Ecuadorean people concerning the system of government that they should have. Our mention of the Previsora case cannot be the sole determinant of the current status of our candidacies.

Above and beyond that, and in other charges we have made and will continue to make, lies the firm determination of a people to build a new republic. Our call for a great national campaign to build a new republic does not have any chance through the elections route and so we call on all Radical Liberals in this country, all the people who have a firm democratic conscience and a profound republican calling, to remain alert and active in a process that can no longer be called one of legal reorganization since it has become a farce. [end recording]

BRIEFS

NEW PETROLEUM DRILLING COMPANY--The first Ecuadorean petroleum drilling company has just been formed in eastern Ecuador. The new concern, founded with native capital and personnel, has been named National Petroleum Drilling Company. Its main offices are in Quito. [Quito La Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 May 78 PA]

PRESIDENT REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO FULFILL OBJECTIVES

PA062044Y Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 3 May 78 p 6 PA

[Speech by President Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez Cerrutti delivered on 2 May 1978 at comradeship meeting in Chorrillos on occasion of artillery day]

[Text] Division General Prime Minister, War Minister and Army General Commander; Division General and Army General Staff Chief; Division General and Army General Inspector; generals, officers, friends: Every time we briefly review some of our problems and responsibilities as members of the armed forces, we do it at times which are not easy for the country politically or in any other way. On this occasion, we reiterate what we have said before. These are times during which the men who received political responsibility, which we are trying to fulfill to the best of our ability, will and spirit, must unite. We are not only celebrating this day here in Chorrillo, we are also celebrating it in other parts of the country. Not long ago, we celebrated military engineering day. Perhaps we should look at this great artillery day as a symbol of our unity, intention and will to do the best for our homeland.

This is first of all a way of meditating, without reference to any specific historical date, on the meaning of 2 May to the nation, the day when civilians and military together defended the country's sovereignty and interests. I think this is the greatest thought we could have today when, in an atmosphere of political freedom, political activities are being carried out to divide us instead of unite us. On various occasions we have said that our revolutionary process is trying to establish, as one of its final goals, the unity of all Peruvians. We have also said that it is not only the men in uniform who can build Peru. We have said that this great task ought to be carried out through the permanent cooperation of all Peruvians.

I believe that relating the historic 2 May events to the present is extremely valuable to the country. Therefore, sympathizing with many concepts expressed today by your army general commander and war minister, I must support those ideas, wishes and statements. We think that after a relatively important period in the country's life, in which the armed forces together with the police forces have carried the full weight of political activities and all the responsibility this entails, it is necessary to complete the effort in a positive way with a real construction of the nation.

A process of structural changes like the one Peru has undergone, positively and negatively because man's actions have positive and negative aspects, is the way to build a nation. Combining all these efforts is the way to build a nation. This is how we, the men in uniform, should view the termination of this process.

We have outlined very clear political objectives for the country. On this occasion we reaffirm that every thing we are able to do, our whole purpose, will be to achieve those objectives. We believe that in fulfilling the political objectives we have outlined, we will strengthen the republic, make it permanent and strengthen nationalism. In this, we are not only thinking about ourselves because we have here with us distinguished officers of the American continent. We believe that whatever happens in one of our countries cannot remain within its boundaries. There is a correlation not only at the present moment, but also through history. That is why we believe that building Peru, strengthening Peru's nationalism, must conincide with strengthening the spirit of the great Latin American nations represented here by various officers. This is also what we want to achieve in the international field; to present Peru to the people of America, to guide Peru together with our Latin American brothers in building the future of the great homeland we have inherited from our great heroes.

I am sure that the majority of Peruvians share the same opinion. As in any society, there are minorities which do not always consider the nation's interests. But such is the world, human beings are that way, and as such they should be accepted because, as we have said, our policy is humanistic, and humanism cannot be biased. Humanism is the unity of a plurality of interests in building the great Peruvian nation that we men of today desire so much and for which our ancestors lived and struggled. The young men, like the artillerymen present here, are not going to fire their cannons and mortars in an aggressive action, but as the army general commander has said: They are going to consolidate the construction of the homeland and defend the sacred sovereignty of our Peru.

I hope that this message does not just remain here. I want this voice of encouragement and faith to reach all the artillerymen throughout the country, and that they be as moved as we are when we say: Long live Peru. Long live the army. Long live the armed forces and its revolution. Long live the artillery.

PRIME MINISTER SPEAKS AT ARTILLERY DAY CEREMONY

PA0700201 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 3 May 78 p 6 PA

[Speech by Div Gen Oscar Molina Pallochia, prime minister, war minister and army commanding general, delivered at artillery day celebration in Chorrillos on 2 May 1978]

[Excerpts] It is an honor and a privilege for me to address you as the senior artillery officer on this day when we celebrate another anniversary of Peru's artillery day.

Its meaning can be conceived only as the spirit of the men who in the past offered and who today, here and now, are offering the best of their lives and their aspirations for the good of their people and country. The word "army" brings to our minds the image of courageous and conscientious men who with honor and loyalty served the country throughout its history. The Peruvian soldier, urged on by his love for freedom and justice, fought for our independence and left his descendants the characteristics which are today inherent in our institution--the responsibility as a soldier and an awareness of his role in the struggle for justice and freedom for the people. This must be understood, whether they like it or not, by those who today, using lies, deceit and insinuations, are trying to defend their selfish interests which have little in common with the interests and aspirations of the great national majorities.

Today our cannons are silent and may God never allow violence to disturb our borders. The legacy of those who sought to unite us has left us an era of Americanist fraternity and a sincere desire for peace and unity which are the only means to break the barriers of ignorance, hunger and misery. Let us join the great crusade for the sovereignty and well-being of our peoples. It is a great honor for us to have as special guests a distinguished delegation of brother artillerymen from the Chilean Army. This delegation is led by Brig Gen Julio Fernandez Atienza, who was appointed a few months ago as the Chilean military attache to his country's embassy in Peru.

On this new anniversary we must think about the spirit and meaning of our institution as the heir of an honorable tradition. We must become jealous guardians of its prestige and faithfully maintain its image, especially under the present circumstances in which we have acquired a great commitment with our people and in which political passions have regrettably overstepped the boundaries prescribed by democracy and freedom.

The armed forces, by their own will and according to the ideological values of the historical process, have promised to transfer power to the civilian sector after having completed a lengthy stage in the national tranformation process.

Let us not fool ourselves. Let us seek unity, understanding and harmony in order to create the new Peru which our people desire and await. A new political awareness was born on October 3, 1968, and today Peru is a different country. Whoever does not have the awareness to realize this can be sure that history has left him behind. History is not written under the influence of passions. There is no sense in fooling or deceiving ourselves. This will not change history or the country's future. It will be the new generations, the sons of our sons, who will judge our actions and errors.

The army, even under the most difficult times--such as the serious economic crisis affecting the country and the whole world--is aware of its tradition and historic role. It remains proud of its actions not only in preserving the integrity and security of our borders but also in the contribution it gives and has always given to the search for the nation's well-being. It is useless to persist in attacks on our basic institutions. It is useless to talk of frauds or attempts to thwart the will of the people. It is useless to incite violence and strife between Peruvians in order to create a future for our country.

We must have a healthy attitude in moving toward a constituent assembly which will obtain from its members the rules that will regulate the future of our society within a climate of sovereignty which will result from a popular vote in pure and impartial elections. This is the intention of this government in this first stage of the transfer of power offered in the Tupac Amaru plan.

May everyone who wants to hasten the established deadlines for the transfer of power or those who seek a different path by which they can erase with the stroke of a pen all the revolutionary and creative efforts of these past years know that the armed forces, aware of their commitment to the people, will act prudently but firmly in order to fulfill their commitment to the Peruvian people.

The armed forces promised the transfer of power in 1980. The armed forces will respect the will of the people as expressed at the polls and will disregard the violent diatribes of those vested interests which refuse to accept Peru's new reality.

May the anniversary of 2 May serve as a time to ponder the critical situation existing in the country. Therefore, let us strive patriotically to unite the efforts of the civilian and armed forces sectors to guarantee to the coming generations not only a climate of freedom, but a better future in which their aspirations, needs and hopes will be met in an exemplary manner.

BRIEFS

FRG SIGNS AGREEMENT--The (Casa Grande) agrarian production cooperative has recently signed an agreement with the FRG for the industrial exploitation of algae. The experimental stage was concluded and work has begun on the semi-industrial aspect. If results are positive, industrial production will begin with technology provided by the FRG. [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 May 78 PY]

MOLYBDENUM RECOVERY PLANT--The Southern Peru Copper Corporation has been authorized by the government to install a plant for the recovery of molybdenum at the (?Guajones) unit. [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 May 78 PY]

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES DROP OF DOLLAR, NORTH-SOUTH CONFERENCE

PA051719Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 30 Apr 78 p 2D PA

[Excerpt] Shortly after closing the 12th assembly of the National Federation of Agricultural Producers (FEDEAGRO), Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez answered various questions from newsmen, including one on the losses of the underdeveloped countries because of the drop in value of the dollar.

"The figures given by OPEC spokesmen which have been published by the press are statistics which were released in order to highlight what OPEC has been saying for many years," the president said.

He added that the problem is not petroleum prices but the purchasing power of the countries which produce raw materials, whether it is petroleum, iron, coffee or sugar. This problem is occurring not only with petroleum but with all raw materials produced by the developing countries and we cannot continue tolerating this. "We cannot continue subsidizing the exaggerated well-being of the industrialized countries at the expense of the poverty of the developing countries," he stressed.

Asked how much Venezuela is losing as a result of this situation, the chief of state said:

"Those figures have not been precisely determined. I cannot give you figures but the problem is serious and consists of what I mentioned previously. This is precisely what will be discussed at the North-South conference, which will be resumed at the United Nations in mid-May."

The president added that Venezuela's representatives, headed by Manuel Perez Guerrero, minister of state for international economic affairs, will participate in that meeting in New York. "Our position will continue to be one of struggle for the common fund and the integrated program of basic products. These are mechanisms which seek to prevent the problem of devaluations and manipulation of the prices of our products which has led us to the current situation."

GOVERNMENT DENIES STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO ENERGY MINISTER

PA060247Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0034 GMT 6 May 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 5 May (LATIN)--The Venezuelan Government today categorically denied that Energy and Mines Minister Valentin Hernandez made statements on petroleum prices which were attributed to him by LATIN in a datelined report from the city of Taif, Saudi Arabia.

The complete text of the Venezuelan Government statement is as follows:

"In view of a report by LATIN-REUTER datelined in Taif, Saudi Arabia, in which Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Valentin Hernandez Acosta is attributed as saying that petroleum prices will remain frozen until the end of this year, the national government categorically denies that report because our country's position was clearly and expressly stated by the president of the republic at the 50th OPEC conference held in Caraballeda in December.

"The government hereby states that the current meeting of the OPEC petroleum ministers is not to discuss petroleum prices and therefore a decision in that regard cannot be made.

"The national government reiterates that the statement attributed to Minister Valentin Hernandez is not true since that is not the Venezuelan position. It also regrets, once again, that the large multinational companies use, in behalf of their interests, the international news agencies to manipulate reports to the detriment of the Third World countries."

In Buenos Aires, the LATIN management reported that the original dispatch received in English from Saudi Arabia had been erroneously translated into Spanish and that it had presented the appropriate explanations to the Venezuelan Government.

RESULTS OF AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT RELEASED

PA061458Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0346 GMT 6 May 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 5 May (AFP)--At the end of Austrian Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr's official visit, the governments of Austria and Venezuela today reaffirmed the need to establish a new international economic order.

Possible areas for cooperation between the two countries were discussed during Pahr's talks with high-ranking Venezuelan officials. They stressed the possibility of building industrial complexes, including iron and steel plants, in Venezuela. The Austrian official and acting Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jorge Gomez analyzed the possibility of expanding trade between their two countries and establishing mechanisms for promoting technical and scientific cooperation.

The two governments confirmed their agreement on the need to promote the defense of human rights throughout the world and expressed their concern over the intensification of the arms race at the international level.

During his vist, which began on Wednesday, Pahr met with President Carlos Andres Perez and Gonzalo Barrios, president of the Venezuelan Congress. President Perez today presented Pahr with the Great Sash of the Order of the Liberator, Venezuela's highest decoration.

TEACHERS TO RENEW STRIKE 8 MAY; OTHER UNIONS MAY FOLLOW

PA061638Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 May 78 PA

[Text] Higher education teachers will renew their indefinite strike on Monday. This is the result of the position adopted by the strike committee of the federation of associations of professors of the university-level institutes and schools of Venezuela, which has rejected the latest proposal of the education minister.

The strike will be renewed on Monday with the support of the Venezuelan Federation of Teachers and in the midst of reports about talks being held with other trade unions that reportedly could join the strike.

VANCE HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE, CONCLUDES VISIT

FL052301Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2115 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Excerpt] Last night, shortly after having met with President Lopez-Portillo, U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance held a press conference with Mexican Foreign Secretary Santiago Roel. At the conference, Vance stated that the decisions Mexico makes in the areas of gas and petroleum are not within the province of the United States. Meanwhile, Roel emphasized that, in the relations with the neighoring country, "Mexican sovereignty remains untouched."

Vance told the reporters that at his meeting with the Mexican chief of state the subject of gas was not discussed and that the topic of petroleum was dealt with "in general terms," but in this respect he pointed out that U.S. President Jimmy Carter hopes for the approval of a new energy law which will set guidelines for reducing North American consumption of this hydrocarbon.

One of the reporters asked Vance's opinion regarding the possibility of Mexico's selling petroleum to Cuba and having a gas-pipeline to Central America. The North American official answered laconically: "It will be Mexico's decision."

Shortly after this press conference, having completed his work agenda, Vance left for the international beach locality of Puerto Vallarta, accompanied by his wife and some members of his entourage.

The visit by the top North American diplomat does not appear to have satisfied Mexican expectations, and the Mexico City morning daily UNO MAS UNO sums up the general opinion in an editorial today by stating that: "It is evident that the topics which fundamentally interest both countries--energy prices and the treatment of undocumented workers--were left for a better occasion."

"Perhaps the area of what is possible has been exhausted but the topics having difficult solutions were postponed," concludes the paper.

AMBASSADOR TODMAN QUESTIONED ON RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN U.S.

FL052335Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2124 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 5 May (ANSA-INFORMEX)--The United States "also violates human rights," acknowledged Terence Todman, former assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs, at a press conference. The statements made by the now U.S. ambassador to Spain were in answer to a reporter's question on torture and abuse committed in the United States against the undocumented Mexican braceros. Todman, who is in Mexico as part of the group accompanying Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, stated that known violations should be denounced wherever they occur and that "in the United States there is no perfection in this area," just as there is no perfection in this area in many other countries.

After affirming that a great rapprochement has occurred between the United States and Latin America, Todman stated that the fact that several countries of the continent have rejected military aid from his country does not necessarily imply that relations between them have deteriorated. "I do not accept that military aid and relations among countries are the same thing," he stated.

Lastly, Todman stated that relations between the United States and Cuba are at a "high state" of normalization, which began with the negotiations held just a little over a year ago.

TORRIJOS STATES GOVERNMENT POSITION ON VESCO SITUATION

PA052001Y Panama City Circuito PRC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos told PRC Television yesterday evening that if Robert Vesco arrives in Panama, we will immediately turn him over to the U.S. authorities by way of the Canal Zone police.

Robert Vesco, the fugitive U.S. financier, is wanted by U.S. authorities for an alleged case of fraud involving $224 million which was committed in 1972 by the Overseas Investment Service mutual fund.

Vesco is also accused of making an illegal contribution of $200,000 to the reelection campaign of former President Richard Nixon.

Vesco left Costa Rica on Sunday aboard a twin-engine (Agseg) airplane. He was accompanied by his Canadian partner Norman Leblanc and his U.S. pilot Pat (Hodge).

Upon leaving San Jose, Costa Rica, Vesco said he would go to Panama, Venezuela, the Bahamas and Mexico. However, both the office of the director of civil aeronautics and the office of the director of military intelligence--the National Guard G-2--have affirmed that Vesco's plane has not landed in Panama.

DE LA ROSA COMMENTS ON PREPARATION FOR CARTER VISIT

PA051947Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] The U.S. mission which came to Panama to prepare for the forthcoming exchange of ratification documents of the new Panama Canal treaties returned to Washington yesterday.

According to statements from negotiator Diogenes de la Rosa, the visiting group fulfilled its objectives without too many difficulties. The Panamanian negotiator said that President Jimmy Carter will come to Panama on 16 June for the joint ceremony in which Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos will participate. De la Rosa said that Carter and Torrijos would receive a rough draft of the protocol this weekend.

Mr Michael Kozar, a member of the U.S. mission, will remain in Panama today to finalize some technical details related to the protocol.

The U.S. mission, which arrived on Monday, was composed of special Ambassador David Popper, Lt Gen Welborn Dolvin, Col Richard Wyrogh, Lt Col George Carroll and Michael Kozar.

GOVERNMENT HOLDS RECEPTION FOR POLISARIO DELEGATION

PA052016Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] On behalf of the Panamanian Government, Vice Foreign Minister Carlos Ozores hosted a reception yesterday evening for the members of the POLISARIO Front who are in our country seeking support for the national liberation struggle of the Saharawi people.

The delegation responsible for making known the advances of the struggle of the Saharawi people is headed by (Mustafa Bashiri), deputy secretary general of the POLISARIO Front and vice president of the revolutionary command council of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic; adviser (Bulaid Buibad); (Ahmad Bunari), adviser to the general secretariat and the person responsible for Spanish and Latin American affairs; (Ahmad Bilal), responsible for Latin America [as heard] and (Muhammad Tami), member of the central committee.

The reception was held in the Panama Room of the El Panama Hotel.

STUDENT DISTURBANCES REPORTED IN COLON; CLASSES SUSPENDED

PA051951Y Panama City Radio Mia Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] We want to report something which has not appeared in the newspapers: Classes have been suspended in the Colon high schools since Tuesday. There were disturbances in Colon yesterday. The National Guard headquarters and the Washington Hotel were stoned. The National Guard had to use tear gas grenades and several students were arrested.

The reason is that the students have been asking the chief of government to go there and since the chief of government has not been able to go to Colon, the students started a strike on Tuesday. They went out into the streets yesterday and the incidents we have described--which were reported to us by one of our reliable correspondents--occurred. The situation continues to be rather tense there.

Education Ministry Comments

PA060241Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] The Education Ministry, aware that the public should have accurate reports on student incidents which for one reason or another take place anywhere in the country, wants to report the following concerning the suspension of classes on Wednesday by three public high schools:

The student boycott at the Professional and Technical Institute of Cativa, Santa Rita and Rufo Garay high schools has not resulted in regrettable incidents because so far no students have been injured or arrested.

The situation in the city of Colon is completely calm. Concerning the various student demands, talks began on Thursday, 4 May, and involve civilian, educational and military authorities.

The student demands are related to Colon's socioeconomic situation and education--school repairs, lack of teachers at several schools and lack of furniture and equipment. The talks with the students continued today with the participation of provincial officials, the executive board of the Panamanian Students Federation, chaired by Secretary General Mario Panther, and representatives of the federated associations of each of the high schools in Colon.

The education officials reported that decisions are being made to immediately resolve some of the demands. The teachers required at several day schools and the Colon night school will be appointed by next Monday. The manner in which the talks between the student leaders and the civilian, education and military authorities have been conducted indicates that calm will return to all Colon schools by Monday on the basis of the commitments and solutions to the problems which have been outlined.

BUSINESSMEN'S MEETING TO REVIEW INVESTMENT CLIMATE

PA051533Y Panama City Circuito RPC in Spanish 1220 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Contadora Island, the most luxurious tourist complex in the area, will be the site of a new, great international event during the month of June when 40 prominent U.S. businessmen will meet there with their Panamanian colleagues and government officials.

The visit by the members of the Council of the Americas was coordinated by the Panamanian Embassy in Washington and the National Council of Private Enterprise. The businessmen will review the investment climate in Panama following the ratification of the treaties.

The visit will take place from 20 to 23 June, a few days after the exchange of the treaties' ratification documents.

FAU HOLDS MEETING TO DISCUSS FUTURE PLANS

PA051727Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 5 May 78 p 15 PA

[Text] The University Anti-Imperialist Front [FAU] held its second general meeting yesterday at the Panama university campus with delegates from all of the university's schools in attendance. FAU Secretary General Pastor Falconett read the general report on the front's activities.

The meeting also discussed political events at the university, the FAU's position in that regard and current events in the country. The meeting was also attended by the FAU's affiliated organizations, school associations, student groups, student cultural and scientific organizations, invited members of the university's administrative staff and faculty as well as friends and sympathizers of the FAU.

The general meeting set the guidelines for the FAU's activities during the coming semesters at the university's main campus in Panama City and its branches throughout the nation.

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF FORMER PRESIDENT ARIAS

PA062055Y Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 5 May 78 p 7A PA

[From "Glosas Vespertinas" column]

[Text] Sources from the Panamanian province of Chiriqui who are in touch with what is happening in "the valley of the fallen" [phrase used to describe Miami, Florida] have reported that Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid, in the company of Hildebrando Nicosia Perez--an attorney--and Mr M. Grubber, has visited the Panamanian Consulate in Miami in order to revalidate his official passport, which as a former president of the republic he has the right to use. The distinguished gentlemen were waited upon by Edgardo Lopez Grimaldo, Panama's consul in Miami.

BELIZE

OPPOSITION LEADER FAVORS TERRITORIAL CESSION

PA051912Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 1720 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] A Belizean opposition leader has said that he supports the annexation of one-fourth of the territory of Belize by Guatemala as the only measure to end the dispute between Great Britain and Guatemala. Alejandro Vernon, a leader of the Progressive Party in Toledo, said that nobody would win in an armed conflict.

Toledo district is next to Peten and Izabal, two Guatemalan departments, and most of its population is Indian, with a predominance of Kekchi Indians.

The Belizean leader feels a peaceful solution can be found by ceding this territory to Guatemala, leaving the rest for those who want independence and who feel no identification with Guatemala.

COSTA RICA

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES ARNULFO ARIAS INVITED TO INAUGURATION

PA052150Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[Text] The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry today denied rumors about the imminent return to San Jose of former Panamanian President Arnulfo Arias, exiled in Miami, and about his having been invited to attend the inauguration of President-elect Rodrigo Carazo Odio.

EL SALVADOR

FOREIGN MINISTER OPTIMISTIC ON HONDURAS PEACE TALKS

PA060054Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2118 GMT 5 May 78 PA

[By Antonio Martinez]

[Excerpts] Panama City, 5 May (ACAN-EFE)--Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth said here today that he is very optimistic concerning the course of the peace talks with Honduras. "I am very optimistic and, judging from the latest meetings in Lima, the Honduran delegation feels the same way," Rodriguez Porth said in an exclusive interview with ACAN-EFE.

The Salvadoran foreign minister, who took office scarcely 5 days ago, arrived in Panama early this morning from the Peruvian capital.

On 3 May he and his Honduran counterpart, Roberto Palma Galvez, delivered to Peruvian mediator Jose Luis Bustamante y Bystamante in Lima a document on the agreements in principle which the two countries have reached in their search for a peace treaty that will settle the war they had in 1969. He did not want to reveal what those points are, explaining that there is an agreement in the sense that only the mediator can disclose information on the course of the negotiations.

Rodriguez Porth said that the Lima meetings were very positive and that now there is a 30-day deadline for each country to deliver to former Peruvian President Bustamante y Bustamante a separate report on the points of disagreement. He simply noted that, of the seven basic aspects that the peace treaty should cover--according to the recommendations of the OAS--two have already been resolved.

Rodriguez Porth told ACAN-EFE that the Salvadoran Government is and continues to be politically inclined toward reaching a settlement of the differences which have kept Central American integration stagnant and, according to some, agonizingly difficult. He added that the other Central American governments have not pressured Honduras and El Salvador to reach a settlement but they have "cordially urged" them to do so.

"I will avoid in the statements of the Salvadoran side any expressions that might reopen the wounds," Rodriguez Porth promised. He also confirmed the decision to return the OAS military observers who are guarding a 6-km neutralized strip along the common border. He added that Salvadoran President Gen Carlos Humberto Romero and Honduran chief of state Juan Alberto Melgar Castro had planned to hold a meeting but the latter's illness forced them to postpone the meeting indefinitely. Rodriguez Porth will stay in Panama today and leave for Costa Rica tomorrow to attend the inauguration of Rodrigo Carazo on Monday.

PRESIDENT DENOUNCES 'INTERNATIONAL SUBVERSION'

PA080429Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0058 GMT 8 May 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 7 May (ACAN-EFE)--Salvadoran President Gen Carlos Humberto Romero denounced on Saturday actions being carried out by international subversion in this country. The president made the statement at the Capt Gen Gerardo Barrios Military School on the occasion of "Salvadoran soldier's day," which is celebrated on 7 May. Romero said that "the fatherland is threatened by the penetration of extremist ideologies which are prohibited by the constitution and by the criminal activities being perpetrated by subversive groups which are not concerned about the country's welfare, much less the concept of the fatherland."

The president said that as a result of this situation the "mission of the Salvadoran soldier is being hindered by grave dangers, the magnitude of which will nevertheless never surpass their loyalty and obedience to the constitutional precepts and their capacity for sacrifice." Romero said that the struggle is difficult because, in the fulfillment of the slogans received from abroad, the enemies of the fatherland have brought about an internal conflict with unique characteristics. To accomplish their aims, the subversive elements have created means and instruments which are completely different from the conventional ones.

Those groups have used sedition and subversion and are now engaged in smear campaigns abroad in an effort to distort the reality which El Salvador is experiencing and to present a distorted image before friendly nations, the president said. He added that the Salvadoran Government is not trying to hide the social and economic problems which exist but it is convinced that these problems must be solved with the conscientious participation of all national sectors in an orderly and peaceful fashion and with the strict observance of the law.

POPULAR ACTION FRONT LEAVES RED CROSS BUILDING

PA070118Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0010 GMT 7 May 78 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 6 May (LATIN)--Local Red Cross spokesmen revealed that the members of the United Popular Action Front [FAPU] who invaded the Red Cross building in Santa Ana left the premises this morning. However, the FAPU members occupying the Red Cross offices in San Salvador have not followed suit. The occupants of the Red Cross building in San Salvador have announced through loudspeakers which they have installed that they started a hunger strike today in an effort to obtain the release of the persons who were arrested following the incidents which took place in the cantons of San Pedro Perulapan. According to the Red Cross supreme council, the Santa Ana occupants withdrew peacefully.

DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA VIEWS BELIZE NEGOTIATIONS

PA061952Y Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 28 Apr 78 p 16 PA

[Unattributed Article]

[Excerpts] It had been expected that a meeting between Guatemalan and British representatives would be held during April as part of the direct talks that have been underway for 2 and 1/2 years to seek a prompt and acceptable solution to the longstanding controversy over Belize's territory.

As Foreign Minister Adolfo Molina Orantes has said, these would have been "exploratory" talks. This has also been indicated by official sources in London, according to a press service report to the effect that the talks would be "purely informal."

At any rate, both Great Britain and Guatemala have expressed their determination to continue talks which would review the status of the controversy and particularly the events and efforts that have taken place in the last few months following the round of talks held in Washington in July last year.

Guatemalan official circles feel that David Owen's reference to "territorial adjustments" is accurate because, in fact, the boundaries between Guatemala and Belize have never been definitively demarcated. The 1859 treaty defined them in exchange for compensation that Great Britain has never paid. At one time the British Government proposed that the boundary be demarcated but tried to do so unilaterally because Guatemala rejected the plan so long as the controversy over Britain's failure to pay compensation was not settled.

At any rate, the stir in the press and the House of Commons, as well as Price's important revelations, have shed light on Great Britain's disposition and attitude in regard to this issue, to wit:

First, Great Britain has acceded to Guatemala's argument that no solution can be reached on the Belize issue if a territorial settlement is not reached first. Second, the British Government is prepared to make concrete proposals which include increasing the amount of land to be returned to Guatemala. Third, despite Mr Price's opposition to the return of a part of the territory to which Guatemala is entitled, the British Government recognizes that "it has the responsibility for continuing to seek a negotiated settlement, which might include a territorial cession."

In other words, there is substantive material to discuss in a new meeting, even if it is informal. In addition, any subsequent meeting would have to discuss other aspects of this complex problem which have already been discussed repeatedly, such as the joint development of the region, foreign relations, security, economic integration, free transit of persons and goods, and so forth.

Nevertheless, despite the good will shown by Guatemala and Great Britain in continuing efforts to find a solution acceptable to all parties in the dispute, which includes the safeguarding of the Belizean people's "vital interests," the negotiations may be hampered, if not blocked, by Mr Price's intransigence. Apparently, Price is hellbent on bringing about independence promptly despite the many obstacles to it, including a strong opposition group in Belize which has warned that Price is leading his people into a dangerous situation and has formally asked that independence be postponed for 10 years, when the minimum degree of development necessary for Belize's successful functioning as an independent state is expected to have been achieved.

However, Price's stubbornness is such that he has even said that the Belize issue is being used in Guatemala to distract attention from internal political problems; that Guatemala's claim is groundless, and that Guatemalans want Belize's southern area because it is rich in oil. Guatemalans say this is not true and argue the following:

In Guatemala the Belize issue is a "matter of national interest." Price himself confirmed this fact when he said that the outcome of the recent elections would in no way entail a change in the Belize issue because the claim would be maintained by any of the three presidential candidates. This makes it clear that the dispute over Belize's territory transcends internal political issues.

As for the argument that the claim is groundless, it is worth noting that the British themselves have confirmed since 1884 that they are indebted to Guatemala. This recognition was reiterated as recently as 25 January when the English newspaper GUARDIAN (John Rettie) said: "It is not that Guatemala has no legitimate claim against Great Britain; it does."

The reference to oil sounds like humbug because there is no evidence that there is oil in southern Belize. Last year Exxon drilled for oil in the area and quit the project because the exploitation work was fruitless.

Oil exploration has been conducted in Belize for over 30 years (some 35 wells having been drilled) without success. Besides, Guatemala's claim goes back more than 150 years, when there was no talk of oil.

Mr Price has gone even further. After his failure in London, he has been trying to promote in the Caribbean the creation of a military force to guarantee Belize's independence. For this purpose, he called a meeting of foreign ministers and delegates of six Caribbean nations (Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, Guyana, Grenada and Trinidad and Tobago) in February. The declaration of support for Belize's independence was reiterated, and it was stated that it was urgently necessary to hold a meeting of Commonwealth ministers to reiterate such support. But no final decision was reached in regard to the creation of the proposed military defense force.

However, Price continued his efforts and traveled to Venezuela, Guyana, Barbados and Washington. Upon his return from Washington, he said that the United States took no stand in regard to any particular settlement formulas and that it remains neutral. The U.S. Government has previously stated that it favors a negotiated and peaceful settlement as a friend of the contending parties and a neutral country.

In his latest statements, Price has said that he does not wish the talks to fail and that a force to defend Belize will be necessary if no settlement is reached. In Guatemala it is said that this may be interpreted to mean that, despite the talks between this country and Great Britain, Price will opt for speedy independence. However, this runs counter to Great Britain's position that if the Belizean people do not wish a territorial settlement the United Kingdom will continue to fulfill its obligation of defending Belize as a colony of the crown.

International political observers find it significant that Price includes Great Britain among the countries with which the creation of the multinational defense force is being negotiated. The participation of the British Government in this possible adventure looks somewhat incongruous, they say, because Great Britain is ready to submit formal proposals at the negotiating table. The British Government has not participated in any talks to establish a force to defend Belize, Ted Rowlands, British secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, has told the House of Commons.

This clarifies the statement the Belizean prime minister made recently in Washington. According to press reports datelined Washington, "Belize has been negotiating with Great Britain, Jamaica, Barbados and Guyana the establishment of a security force in Belize to replace the British garrison and pave the way to independence."

The text of the dispatch received in this capital reporting the debate in the House of Commons reads as follows:

"In the House of Commons, Dr M.S. Miller asked the secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs if his majesty's government is currently engaged in talks with the Belizean Government, the U.S. Government or any other government in the Caribbean area regarding Belize's defense after its independence and if he would make a statement in that regard.

"Mr Ted Rowlands stated: We believe that the best means to guarantee the security of Belize following its independence would be a negotiated settlement with Guatemala acceptable to the Belizean people and government. Our efforts are geared toward determining if the conditions for reaching such settlement exist."

HONDURAS

MELGAR CASTRO INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC, FOREIGN TOPICS

PA070301Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1325 GMT 6 May 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 6 May (LATIN)--Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro, the Honduran chief of state, has said here that he is prepared to institutionalize the country "as soon as possible" but did not give any date. He expressed optimism over a possible settlement of the conflict between Honduras and El Salvador, which is now at the mediation stage.

Melgar Castro also expressed pessimism over the outcome of meetings held thus far by Central American presidents and the Union of Banana Exporting Countries (UPEB). "Actually, we have accomplished nothing. It would seem as if we had held only picnics," General Melgar said, adding that "I have told my colleagues that it is best not to meet unless we have an agenda."

Melgar made these statements to this news agency at his office in the government palace. Unlike other military heads of state, he did not seem to be surrounded by any rigid security measures.

"We placed the entire electoral process in the hands of the National Electoral Tribunal so that it would recommend a date to call the elections. However, we have not received any answer as yet," Melgar said. "We are prepared to restore the country's institutional system as soon as possible, but everything depends on the Electoral Tribunal," he added.

"We had said that this process would take place in 1979, but time is running short, and if we do not have a reply soon, we will have to look for a more viable mechanism," Melgar stressed.

The newspaper EL TIEMPO has reported that there is a "serious discrepancy" regarding the jurisdiction under which the national registration of persons will fall. This gave rise to a hurried meeting on Wednesday between Melgar Castro and representatives of the entities involved in the electoral process. According to the newspaper, the Electoral Tribunal feels that the national registration of persons "is subordinated to it," but the government feels that the "documentation of citizens cannot be handled by political parties."

The Electoral Tribunal is composed of representatives of the four political parties--the Christian Democratic Party, the National Party, the Liberal Party and the Innovation and Unity Party.

"We are making some adjustments and are analyzing the question of the national registration of persons," Melgar said while referring to the issue. He did not mention the serious discrepancies, however.

The 48-year-old general of peasant origin has for [words indistinct] headed the second phase of the military government that overthrew Ramon Ernesto Cruz, the constitutional president, in 1972. Melgar replaced Gen Oswaldo Lopez Arellano when the latter was dismissed by the supreme council of the armed forces for allegedly being involved in the bribery scandal surrounding United Brands, the banana transnational company.

The issue of corruption again came up a few months ago when charges were raised that high-ranking military officers were involved in large-scale drug smuggling. Honduras was mentioned as "an international connection for the distribution of drugs."

"Regrettably, these events have stained Honduras' image abroad. However, measures have been adopted, such as the appointment of a high-level commission to carry out an in-depth investigation of this embarrassing case," Melgar said. He recalled the case of seven ships flying the Honduran flag that were captured in U.S. territorial waters with a shipment of drugs, including lysergic acid (LSD). He said that both the U.S. and Honduran governments are "seriously concerned" over the growing traffic in drugs. The two governments have adopted measures to make the immigration and customs laws more strigent in order to fight drug traffickers.

Recently, armed forces chief Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia and intelligence chief Col Leonidas Torres Arias told the local press that "the traffic in drugs involves several million dollars."

Referring to the Honduran-Salvadoran mediation process, General Melgar Castro said: "Both governments have put forth their best efforts to solve this problem. In case we reach a solution, I do not believe that another massive influx of Salvadorans will occur because we have hardened our immigration laws," the Honduran chief of state said.

Honduras and El Salvador are now involved in the mediation process as part of their efforts to put an end to the 1969 "soccer war" and the resultant break in diplomatic relations. One of the causes of the conflict, Melgar Castro said, was that "at that time there existed an agreement which permitted the free influx of Salvadorans, who are very industrious. Unfortunately, criminals and persons of ill repute also came with the workers. At one time we had as many as 300,000 Salvadorans here. The situation had become untenable. That has ended because, as part of the mediation process, each country now legislates according to its own internal rules," Melgar said.

The break in Honduran-Salvadoran diplomatic relations contributed to the stagnation of the Central American Common Market, diplomatic observers said, and this situation has not been solved in the previous meetings of Central American presidents.

[illegible] Salvadoran conflict, the absence of Costa Rican President Daniel Oduber and Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos from the Central American summit meeting held in Guatemala last October made evident the Costa Rican dispute with Nicaragua and Panama's dispute with Guatemala. Oduber and Nicaraguan President Gen Anastasio Somoza were at odds over a border incident caused by the campaign against Sandinist guerrillas in Nicaragua, while Panama and Guatemala broke their diplomatic relations following Torrijos' statement that "I have my hands in Belize and will not remove them." Guatemala is claiming territorial sovereignty over Belize while Great Britain is promoting its autonomy.

Regarding the forthcoming regional summit conference, General Melgar Castro said: "I believe that it will be held after July because two presidents-elect will take office soon. However, we do not have an agenda, although we generally discuss the Central American Common Market situation. We hope to rely on our groups of businessmen." Costa Rican President Carazo Odio will take office in San Jose next Monday whereas Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia will take office as Guatemalan president on 1 July.

General Melgar Castro said that two U.S. companies will begin to explore for oil on the continental shelf in July. He said that "the inflation we have in the country is imported due to the high price we must pay for oil. We are making one last effort, and if we find oil it could change Honduras' outlook," the president said. Honduras imports its oil principally from Venezuela. Esso and Texaco began drilling on the continental shelf after having failed to find marketable quantities of oil in Honduras, a country covering 112,000 square km.

NEW MID-LEVEL SECURITY OFFICIALS APPOINTED

PA072156Y Tegucigalpa EL CRONISTA in Spanish 3 May 78 pp 1, 11 PA

[Wilfredo Ramirez Vega article]

[Text] Reliable sources have confirmed the reorganization of the principle mid-level commands of the Public Security Force (FUSEP). The following are the names of the Honduran Armed Forces officials and their respective appointments:

Maj Juan Lopez Grijalba, director of the National Department of Investigations (DNI); Capt Paris Amisis Rivera Rapalo, assistant director; Maj Lazaro Lemanio Avila Solano, director of public police, Maj Cristobal Simon Romero, director of transit police; Maj Salvador Rojas Mendoza, chief of FUSEP's third region; Maj Luis Alonso Balderramos Molina, chief of FUSEP's sixth region, in La Ceiba; Maj Julio Cesar Rivera, commander of the 10th Infantry Battalion in Marcala; Maj Armando Calidonio, commander of the 11th Infantry Battalion in Choluteca; Maj Alfonso Bertrand Tercero, commander of the 12th Infantry Battalion in Copan.

Public opinion had good reason to attribute these changes--which EL CRONISTA had forecast--to recent statements made by Lt Juan Angel Barahona, chief of Interpol Honduras, which were the cause of indignation and unrest in different social circles in the country. In his statements Barahona connected some top-ranking armed forces officers to the notorious drug trafficker and emerald smuggler Ramon Matta Ballesteros, also known in the underworld as Ramon Matta Lopez, who allegedly directs the Mafia in Honduras from Colombia.

Honest citizens, who are the ones that count, hope that with these changes in the security and police forces ordered by the armed forces general staff, reports of major scandals proper of a crime and mysterious publications will come to an end, or at least be reduced to a minimum, so that the Honduran people can begin to regain confidence in those who are in charge of the military command and the paramilitary groups which supposedly have been created to provide protection to the vast majority of the population.

'AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES' DENY TROOP PRESENCE IN LEBANON

PA061730Y Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 May 78 PA

[Text] Havana--Authoritative sources here have denied the alleged presence of Cuban military personnel alongside Palestinian fighters in southern Lebanon.

A few days ago, the station of the rightist Lebanese groups circulated this rumor, which was repeated by some Western news media. The sources contacted by PRELA said that this false report is aimed at creating confusion about the events currently taking place in that area. The same sources said that these false reports are part of the campaign being carried out by Cuba's enemies on an international level to distort the true sense of solidarity and the support the Cuban people are giving to the Palestinian cause at the precise time when the campaign of aggression by the Zionists and Lebanese reaction is intensifying.

CUBA TO HOST NONALINED COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING

FL051216Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Text] Cuba has been selected to host the next ministerial-level meeting of the nonalined movement coordinating bureau, which had been scheduled to be held in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan. The decision was made by consensus yesterday at a meeting held at the United Nations by ambassadors of coordinating bureau member countries after Afghanistan declined to host the meeting in the wake of the military coup which brought to power the Revolutionary Council headed by Nur Mohammad Taraki.

According to the decision, the meeting will be held in Havana City from 15 to 20 May.

HAVANA REPORTS CUBAN EXILES CHARGED IN LETELIER CASE

FL062015Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 May 78 FL

[Text] Three terrorists of Cuban origin were formally indicted in Washington as the killers of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, a crime that was committed on orders of the Chilean fascist junta's political police--DINA--which paid them $1 million. Those charged are Igancio Novo Sampol, who was arrested last Thursday, and Jose Dionisio Suarez Esquivel and Virgilio Paz Romero. A search made of one of the charged men's car turned up a radio transmitter that was used to detonate the bomb that destroyed Leterlier's car on 29 September 1976.

It has been established that the terrorists who killed Letelier were contracted by Michael Townley, a North American citizen and DINA agent. Townley, who is under arrest in the United States, appears to have made a deal with the authorities to have his sentence reduced in exchange for information on the Letelier assassination.

CUBA REAFFIRMS SOLIDARITY WITH CHILEAN PEOPLE

FL051716Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Text] Cuba has reaffirmed its solidarity with the Chilean people's struggle against the Augusto Pinochet military junta, which is supported by the United States. Our people and party express their highest feeling of solidarity with those who are fighting fascism in Chile, PCC Central Committee member Jesus Montane asserted.

Montane was making the closing remarks at a ceremony held at the Construction Ministry auditorium marking the 45th anniversary of the Chilean Socialist Party. He condemned North American assistance to the Pinochet regime, adding that the regime's latest maneuvers represent an attempt at improving its deteriorated image abroad.

Montane was accompanied by Manuel Pineiro, chief of the PCC Central Committee America Department, Chilean Socialist Party Central Committee officials and other guests.

CONGO FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS UNEAC, HAVANA UNIVERSITY

FL051053Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Excerpt] Theophile Obenga, People's Republic of the Congo minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, has visited the main offices of the National Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba--UNEAC--and Havana University. The Congolese foreign minister met UNEAC President and national poet Nicolas Guillen, member of the PCC Central Committee.

CONGOLESE PRESIDENT YHOMBI-OPANGO TO ARRIVE 8 MAY

FL061730Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 May 78 FL

[Text] A high-level delegation will arrive in our country on Monday afternoon headed by Brig Gen Joachim Yhombi-Opango, chairman of the Congolese Labor Party Military Committee, chief of state and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of the Congo. The Congolese leader will be a guest of honor of our people, party and government in response to an invitation from Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers.

IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT MA'RUF ENDS VISIT

FL051046Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Text] Council of State and Council of Ministers Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez has bade farewell to Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf and his delegation at Jose Marti International Airport. Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, deputy foreign ministers and Foreign Ministry directors also went to the air terminal to bid farewell to the Iraqi delegation.

Joint Communique Issued

FL062128Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 May 78 FL

[Text] As a result of the recent visit to our country by Vice President of the Iraqi Republic Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, an Iraqi-Cuban joint communique has been issued in which the fraternal relations which join the two peoples are stressed.

The document states that the Iraqi side highly values the transformations and successes achieved in the economic, political and social fields under the guidance of the PCC, directed by its first secretary, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. The Cuban side highly values the successes achieved by the Iraqi Republic in several fields under the guidance of Comrade Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, following the principles of the Arab Socialsit Ba'th Party, which has as its objectie the building of socialist society and the positive role played in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, Zionism, racial discrimination and apartheid.

The two sides discussed the methods and paths to be used to develop and expand on the ties between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the PCC. They also emphasized the importance in exchanging experiences to assure the strengthening of their common struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

In their discussions on the situation in the Arab region, both sides agreed that a peaceful, lasting and just solution cannot be achieved without the elimination of Zionist aggression and the recovery of the national rights inherent in their fatherland by the Arab people of Palestine. They emphasized their support for the struggle by the Palestinian resistance movement.

The two countries recalled the solution approved by the UN General Assembly which considers Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination, and they condemn the Zionist aggression in southern Lebanon, believing these attacks are part of the imperialist manuevers attempting to eliminate Palestinian resistance.

Upon discussing questions on the nonalined movement, the two sides noted with satisfaction that the principles of their policies have become an effective and recognized element in international relations and that the movement is experiencing continuous development. The Cuban side values the positive role played by Iraq in the nonalined movement and supports its aspirations to hold the movement's seventh summit meeting in Baghdad in 1982.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the results of the visit to the Cuban Republic by Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf and the high-level delegation which accompanied him. The Iraqi vice president expressed his profound thanks for the warm welcome he and the rest of the delegation which he headed recieved during his stay in Cuba from Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and the rest of the Cuban leaders.

The Iraqi leader extended an official invitation to Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers of the Cuban Republic, to visit Iraq. The invitation was accepted with pleasure and the date of the visit will be set later.

INA Adds Details

JN061235Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1122 GMT 6 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 6 May--Iraq and Cuba have expressed satisfaction with the relations that exist between them. They have affirmed their desire to strengthen and expand these relations in the political, economic and other fields. They stressed the importance of deepening relations between the Ba'th Party and the PCC and exchanging experiences in order to strengthen their common struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

They were in total agreement on the need for their unity and solidarity and to strengthen the nonalined movement. They expressed their support for the principles and resolutions approved by the fifth summit conference of the nonalined countries. In this regard they signed a plan for cooperation between their foreign ministries for 1978-79.

This came in a joint statement issued here today following Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf's visit to Cuba from 30 April to 4 May at the head of a delegation which included Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and a number of senior officials.

The two sides expressed their support for making the Indian Ocean and its natural extension an area of peace that would be free from imperialist influence and bases. This, they said, would be in the interest of the area's states and peoples.

The statement added that the two sides attribute great importance to the development of economic relations among the states of the nonalined movement and also to the coordination of efforts to establish a new international economic order. Therefore, the two sides express their support for convening the sixth summit conference of nonalined countries in the Cuban capital, Havana.

Regarding the situations in Africa and Latin America, the two sides expressed their support for the confrontation states in Africa that reject the pressures of imperialism and its agents. They also condemned the aggressive acts perpetrated by the imperialists and reactionaries against the peoples of Mozambique, Zambia and Angola and affirmed their support for the Angolan revolution under the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

They also affirmed their support for the liberation movements in Africa in their struggle against the racist regimes in the continent. They voiced particular support for SWAPO in Namibia, the Patriotic Front in Zimbabwe and the African National Conference of South Africa for national independence. The two sides welcomed the fighting spirit of these countries' strugglers, who thereby give definite proof of their determination to struggler for national independence.

The Iraqi and Cuban sides noted with satisfaction the positive transformations in Latin America that have been gained through its struggle against imperialist hegemony. They affirmed their support for the peoples of Latin America in their struggle to gain national control over their natural resources and remove exploitation by multinational companies, foreign domination and colonialism.

The two sides condemned the acts of the fascist regime in Chile against its people. They denounced the U.S. embargo against Cuba and demanded the return of the Guantanamo Naval Base to the Cuban people.

MARTINIQUE PARTIES DELEGATION ARRIVES IN HAVANA

FL051514Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1506 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Text] A delegation from the Martinique National Front for Autonomy has arrived in our country at the invitation of the PCC Central Committee. The delegation consists of Philibert Dufeal, member of the Communist Party of Martinique Politburo; Albert Elana, foreign relations secretary of the Progressive Party of Martinique; and Jean Claude William, assistant secretary general of the Socialist Party of Martinique.

CUBA, VIETNAM SIGN FISHING AGREEMENT

FL061926Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 May 78 FL

[Text] The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Cuba have signed a protocol on economic, scientific and technical cooperation in the fishing sector. The document, which calls for various joint tasks in this sphere, was signed in Hanoi yesterday by Vietnamese Vice Minister of Maritime Products Nguyen Ba Phat and Deputy Minister of the Cuban Fish Industry Hector Porras.

HAVANA COMMEMORATES ANNIVERSARY OF MARX' BIRTHDAY

FL070227 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic and Domestic Television Services in Spanish at 0128 GMT on 6 May carry live coverage of Karl Marx' birthday anniversary celebration held at the Lazaro Pena auditorium of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers, Havana. Color television coverage begins by panning the audience, awaiting the start of the event.

At 0130 GMT the curtain is raised and the audience gives the presidium a standing ovation. The backdrop on the dias shows a large picture of Karl Marx to the viewers' left and the statement: "160th anniversary of Karl Marx' birthday." The national anthem is played at 0131 GMT. A television staff announcer announces those presiding at the event, mentioning PCC Politburo members Blas Roca, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Armando Hart; Secretariat members; Council of Ministers vice presidents; Central Committee members, and a representation of the diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba. Secretariat members Garcia Pelaez and Perez Herrero are seen on the dais.

Humberto Perez Gonzalez, PCC Central Committee member and Central Planning Borad president, begins speaking at 0133 GMT. Perez Gonzalez begings by calling Marx a "unique figure in humanity, whose most outstanding disciple and follower was the great craftsman of the first socialist revolution in the world, Vladimir Ilich Lenin." After praising Marx' intellectual abilities, Perez Gonzalez discusses his ideas which he called a synthesis of the ideas of the social thinkers of the past and present. "As a product of this immense intellectual effort, he created the science of society."

He goes on to say that the enemies of Marxism doubt the scientific character of Marxist doctrine because it is defined as an ideology of the working class and that, as an ideology, it cannot also be a science. He points out that "Marxism is the only ideology which resolves this contradiction between science and ideology, for being precisely the ideology of the working class, it is the only social class in the whole history of humanity whose particular interests are not in contradiction with the development laws of society, but rather, in complete concordance with them."

After discussing Marx' life, Perez Gonzalez goes on to show Marx' influence in the world today. "Never before has any social theory played such an important and decisive role in the development of history as has Marxist doctrine. Never before has any doctrine had the vigor, the mighty force of Marxism. No other ideology has been recognized by the masses and become the dominant ideology with such speed, with such power and in such an absolute manner and to such a degree. In the world today there is no political activity, revolutionary activity or social theory that does not define itself by its relationship to Marxism."

Perez Gonzalex continues his remarks on Marx by discussing the attacks on his doctrine. "If at a specific time the principal and most usual manner to attack Marxism was to confront it directly and openly, rejecting it totally and absolutely, today, and more so every day, without abandoning the old battle trenches, bourgeois ideology tries to appropriate Marxism and, as Lenin said, by the use of sophisms, castrate its meaning and turn it into a holy icon, inoffensive to the bourgeoisie after have dulled its revolutionary cutting edge. They falsify Marxism and bring out the apparent contradictions in its doctrine, sophisticating elements of its theoretical body, metaphisically isolated, by omitting the logical internal steps which tie them together." These contradictions include supposed differences between Marx on one side and Engles and Lenin and between the young Marx and the mature Marx.

Perez Gonzalez concludes by quoting Marti, who stated: "Karl Marx, your work and your thought have crossed the seas. They entered our country at the end of the last century and, overcoming prejudices and defeating confusions, they were made, in a firm and constant process, part of the thought of the most advanced revolutionaries in our fatherland."

Perez Gonzalez ends his speech at 0250 GMT. The "International" is then played and television coverage ends at 0253 GMT.

FIDEL CASTRO SENDS LETTER TO ARTIST CARPENTIER

FL051126Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 May 78 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, PCC first secretary and Council of State and Council of Ministers president, has sent a letter to Comrade Alejo Carpentier, who has donated to the revolution the Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra commemorative medal and money prize.

We are accustomed, Fidel says, to having youths, who owe everything to the new society, dedicate to it all their successes in production, science, arts and sports. You, however, already were renowned in literature and of recognized prestige when many years still remained for the triumph of the revolution. This circumstance, with all its moral, human and revolutionary value, underscores the feeling which has impelled you to share this deserved honor with all your compatriots at this hour of extremely high recognition of your literary work of your entire life.

Fidel adds in the letter to Alejo Carpentier: Man can carry many decorations on his chest, but when he feels that real greatness cannot exist apart from the collective work to which he belongs, he becomes worthy of the highest and greatest honor of all--the admiration, affection and respect of all his people.

HART PRESIDES AT CULTURE EMULATION MEETING

FL061840Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 May 78 FL

[Excerpt] Armando Hart Davalos, PCC Politburo member and culture minister, has presided at the national plenum on emulation for the Culture Workers Trade Union which was held at (Focsa) studio No 19. Also attending were PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero, Central Committee member Jose Felipe Carneado, Central Committee alternate member Rosario Fernandez, Culture Trade Union Secretary General Jacinto Viamonte, and other members of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers--CTC--and members of the culture trade union itself.

The plenum announced the five top centers in the fourth quarter of last year in the 11th World Youth and Students Festival emulation, the 26 outstanding centers of the past year in the various artistic areas, in production, publication and journalism, and the most outstanding workers in the categories of basic, auxiliary and technical work.

The closing remarks were made by Rosario Fernandez, who stated that all the provinces and the national trade union were winners in the historic dates emulation, demonstrating the outstanding work accomplished to achieve this resounding triumph. After referring to the various activities carried out last year, she pointed out the effort being made by amateurs, who should be given all the support possible because our society favors the flowering of the arts.

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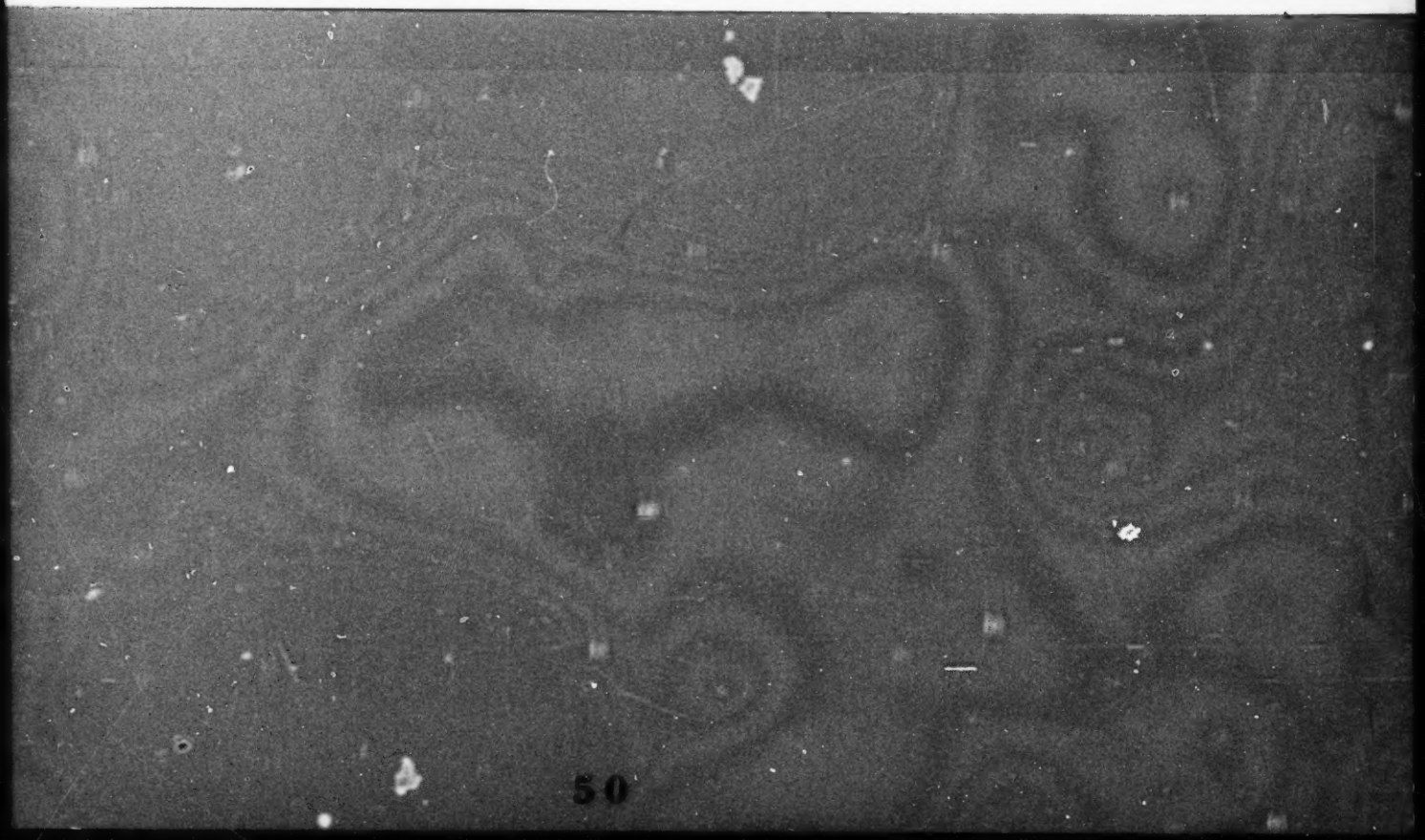
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